



WIFE'S AMAZING TRANSPLANT GIFT

Report by Naomi Penrose

AN Oswestry couple discovered they were a match in more ways than one when a wife saved her husband's life by donating one of her kidneys to him after learning she was the perfect donor.

Adrian Hill, 47, was born with one kidney and at the age of 38 he was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease.

Mr Hill always knew the disease would eventually result in him needing a donor but never imagined that person would come in the form of wife Nicola, 45.

In August last year Mrs Hill put herself forward to see whether she could be a living donor for her husband and discovered they were a blood match. Following intensive testing it was confirmed they matched.

Mr Hill said the moment they discovered she was a match was like "winning the lottery". Although elated, Mrs Hill was understandably anxious.

Life

She said: "It has been such a journey but I have no regrets, I would do it all again without any hesitation because it's given Ade his life and his life is my life."

The news came months after Mr Hill's condition had deteriorated resulting in him needing to start dialysis treatment, three times a week – four hours per session.

Mr Hill said: "The dialysis was saving my life but it was taking over my life."

The transplant took place on August 3 at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital.

Mr Hill said: "Nic went first and I remember kissing her and off she went. I was worried about her and emotional too, she was going through an operation that she didn't really need to go through. Words just can't describe that."

Three months on from the procedure, the couple of Middleton Road, Oswestry – who are due to be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary next year – said the months leading up to the transplant anniversary are a "rollercoaster" due to Mr Hill's low immunity but they are excited for the future and want to encourage as many people as possible to save lives and become donors.

Mr and Mrs Hill decided to speak ahead of the change in the way people in Wales choose to become organ donors.

After December 1, people in Wales who have not recorded an organ donation decision will be treated as having no objection to becoming an organ donor.

Mr Hill said: "I wish this would now be introduced across the UK because no effort is required from anybody this way."

Once Mr Hill's recovery progresses, the couple intend to raise funds and awareness for the British Kidney Patient Association. Donations can be made to www.justgiving.com/n-hill1



Oswestry couple Nicola and Adrian Hill are looking forward to the future after the successful transplant. Photo: Jamie Ricketts.

Hillfort campaigners will battle on

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to preserve the history surrounding Oswestry's iron age hillfort have pledged to continue the battle despite being disappointed by a decision by the Planning Inspectorate.

Shropshire Council's SAMDev plans for housing development over the next decade have been signed off by planning inspector Claire Sherratt – and include 117 houses on a site off Whittington Road known as OSW004, which lies close to the hillfort.

In the 68-page report, containing lengthy deliberation over OSW004, Ms Sherratt said: "Notwithstanding the level of opposition to the inclusion of site OSW004, Historic England has not maintained an objection, a consideration that I afford considerable weight."

But Dr George Nash, an archaeologist and

specialist in pre-historic art, said: "The fight to save this significant historic landscape fortunately will go on."

Dr Nash said he could also see several positives from the report which he said will buoy campaigners as they continue to fight against development.

He said there were a number of "moral victories" that objectors such as the Hands Off Old Oswestry Hillfort (HOOOH) group can claim from the "fiasco".

He added: "Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning. We fight on."

Kate Clarke, spokeswoman for HOOOH, said group members were disappointed but in the light of the inspector's comments would be writing to Historic England to ask why it did

not object to the scheme. Maggie Rowlands, a member of the HOOOH group, said: "We welcome the inspector's emphasis on design and a full archaeological assessment for this highly contentious site."

"Thousands remain passionately opposed to the development, right up to the highest level of archaeological academia and throughout the heritage protection community."

"We've even had promises of money from the US."

"We will continue to fight."

The inclusion of OSW004 in SAMDev means that the site has been deemed appropriate for housing.

But any developers wishing to build will still have to go through the planning process to get permission before any building work begins.

EMPLOYMENT

Super-prison is looking for staff to fill vacancies

A NEW super-prison is on course to create 1,000 jobs – with people in the Oswestry and Welshpool areas urged to consider applying for positions.

Recruitment sessions will be held next week to find staff for the new jail.

Chirk councillor Terry Evans said that the new prison in Wrexham would bring jobs to the area.

He said the recruitment drive for prison officers and support staff was already under way and he urged those looking for a new career to go along to two recruitment sessions that will be held at Wrexham Memorial Hall on Wednesday.

The sessions will run from 2.30pm to 5.30pm and from 6.30pm to 9.30pm.

Councillor Evans said that he understood that about 80 people will be taken on initially to work at the jail and more officers and support staff will be taken on over the coming year. The prison will house 2,106 offenders, which will make it the UK's largest.

Councillor Evans said: "People often don't know what skills are needed to be a prison officer. They may think it is only about locking people up and these events are to help people realise that often the life skills they have are perfect for the job."

The new prison is on the Wrexham Industrial Estate.

Half of all labour for the site will be recruited locally.

EDUCATION

Meeting to focus on language row

THE row over the future of Welsh language provision at a Mid Wales high school is on the agenda at a town council meeting.

Councillors will debate recent correspondence following a public meeting at Llanfyllin High School to discuss whether the secondary school should retain its bilingual status.

The meeting of Llanfyllin Town Council will be held at the Public Institute on Wednesday at 6.45pm.

Critics of the plans have warned the schools shake-up could divide communities.

INSIDE

Hospice is a place of hope



PAGE 36

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Man, 41, found guilty of attempt to murder partner

Report by David Banner

A MAN who launched a frenzied knife attack on his partner after she told him to leave has been convicted of attempted murder.

The victim ended up with potential life-threatening stab wounds during the attack at her home, Mold Crown Court was told.

Scott David Jones, 41, of St Mary's Close in Chirk, near Oswestry, denied attempted murder following the incident but had already admitted wounding her with intent to cause her grievous bodily harm.

He was remanded in custody pending an assessment of his future risk and will be sentenced next month.

Judge Rhys Rowlands, sitting at Mold Crown Court, told him: "You appreciate that it is going to be a long sentence."

Defending barrister Duncan Bould said while his client had convictions for minor violence there had been a gap in his offending on a couple of occasions. "There was nothing of such severity in his past," he said.

Jones - dressed in a blue suit - showed no emotion when the guilty verdict was returned by a 11 to one majority by the jury.

The 27-year-old victim, who began a relationship with Jones in about November last year, ended up with life threatening stab wounds during the attack at her home in Wrexham on May 10 this year.

The jury was told that during the attack the woman suffered six incised wounds consistent with the use of a knife and an injury to her finger.

The incident happened after they got into a row and he attacked her. She then told him the relationship was over and started packing his things.

When he realised she was serious he flew into a rage and started attacking her again, the court was told.

There were three stab wounds to her abdomen and three to her arm, one caused by a slashing motion. The other two were stab wounds. There were defensive wounds to the arm and finger which bled profusely but were not life threatening.

A serrated kitchen knife was recovered behind the bin in the kitchen. DNA testing showed it had her body tissue and blood upon it. Jones claimed that he could remember nothing of the knife attack upon her because of the alcohol he had drunk.

He said that he loved her very much and would never have wanted to kill her.

Chip shop nets £1,000 for mayor's fund



Mayor Peter Cherrington was delighted to receive a cheque for £1,000 from Jaswinder Chatha and Kulvir Chatha

A FAMILY chip shop chain which asked customers to eat chips for charity has raised £1,000 for two local good causes.

Kulvir and Jaswinder Chatha, from Oswestry, wanted to do something to support the mayor of Oswestry's charities.

The family owns The Plaine in Salop Road, The Prince's Plaine in Lloyd Street, and 'Arry's Plaine in Cabin Lane.

And to celebrate the opening of 'Arry's Plaine last month the couple offered special prices to anyone buying fish and chips, with all proceeds going to the mayor's charities, Marie Curie Cancer Care and the new tumour unit being built at Oswestry's orthopaedic hospital. When the sales were

calculated, Mr Chatha said he was very pleased to see how much money had been donated.

He said: "We had two special offer days, one in the summer at The Plaine and one last month when we opened 'Arry's Plaine. They were both very good with a lot of people coming to support us.

"We want to thank everyone who came in and gave money towards the collection."

Oswestry mayor Councillor Peter Cherrington said he was very grateful to Mr and Mrs Chatha for their support.

"Their dedication to the town and its people are an inspiration and the money received will go straight to my charities,"

he said. "I believe that the charities I am supporting this year are very important.

"Every person has the right to die with dignity, which the Marie Curie team help to do so well, and I believe that young people should have the chance to live a full and healthy life, which will be given with the help of early cancer detection at the tumour unit.

"I want to thank Kulvir and Jaswinder for their generous donation, which will go a long way to helping so many others. I don't believe that any other shopkeeper has ever donated £1,000 to the mayor's charity, although many shops do support numerous charities. That makes this extra special."

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Rare medal sells well at city auction

ONE of Shropshire's oldest and rarest football medals sold for more than double its expected price at auction.

The twelve carat gold Welsh Cup winner's medal was awarded to Edward Hodnett after he helped Oswestry United win the Welsh Cup on April 8, 1901, just a few weeks after the death of Queen Victoria on January 22, 1901.

It fetched £950 when it sold at Graham Budd Auctions in London, where it had been expected to attract bids of between £300 and £500.

The medal was part of an extraordinary £50,000 collection of Wales football memorabilia – including international jerseys,caps and other rare mementoes – put up for sale by Ceri Stennett , a leading authority on Welsh football.

Oswestry United, who won the Welsh Cup in 1901, were one of Britain's first football clubs, founded in 1860, 26 years before Shrewsbury Town and 28 years before the Football League was founded in 1888.

Oswestry United won the Welsh Cup in 1901 by beating Ruabon-based Druids FC 1-0 in the final, watched by seven thousand people, at the Racecourse Ground,Wrexham.

Edward Hodnett, the owner of the medal, is thought to have lived at Ellesmere. Mr Hodnett was 90 when he died in 1966, the year England won the World Cup.

Search is on for boss for hospital

RECRUITMENT has started to find a new chief executive for the NHS trust that runs Oswestry's orthopaedic hospital.

The position became vacant in September following the sudden resignation of Wendy Farrington Chadd after eight years in the role.

Frank Collins, chairman of the trust, said: "This is a vital appointment for the organisation. We are looking for an outstanding individual to provide visible and inspirational leadership, leading the trust in delivering outstanding patient care, clinical excellence and financial sustainability.

"It is an exciting time to be joining the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, with our new £15.1 million theatre and ward development due to open in September next year."

Pavilion will be rebuilt for community's use

Report by Sue Austin

A DILAPIDATED sports pavilion familiar to cricket players from across the region is to be rebuilt to provide a centre for the community.

Work has begun on the complete renovation of Gatacre Pavilion in Oswestry, the home of Cae Glas Cricket Club since 1976.

The initial building work will cost £189,395 after which more fundraising will be needed for a second phase. Spokesman Andy Griffiths said the club had signed a long term lease with Shropshire Council to safeguard the future of the pavilion and playing fields for sporting and community use. This had in turn enabled the club to secure funding from Sport England's Inspired facilities fund, Wren – a not-for-profit organisation that awards grants for community projects that are located close to landfill sites – and Oswestry Town Council, to fund the renovation, as well as investing the club's own money in the project.

Mr Griffiths said: "It's been quite a challenge to co-ordinate all the bids and negotiate a long term lease with Shropshire Council and the Fields in Trust people, but thankfully we now have the security of a 30-year lease, which has allowed the project to actually commence. The whole basis of the bids has been to increase the usage of the facility for the benefit of the whole community, and once completed, it will be available to hire for birthday parties, and for use by community groups as well as for sporting ventures. We are extremely grateful of course to our main funders, Sport England, Wren, and Oswestry Town Council, but we have also had tremendous support and contributions to the project from local firms DPA Design, GHP Legal services and Hawk Developments, who have all made significant contributions to getting us this far, as well as advice and encouragement from Councillors Vince Hunt and Chris Schofield.

"Total cost of the project is £189,395, which we have now been able to cover. There remains work to do however, and we will continue to look to raise funds and seek further sponsors to complete the broader project, which will include future plans to build additional permanent storage facilities for the additional kit we will need to maintain the sports pitches in the longer term."

Gemma says cheers to fundraiser



Gemma Hubbard from Oswestry raised £600 for charity by staying off alcohol during October

A FLORIST swapped wine for fruit juice during October to raise £600 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Gemma Hubbard, manageress of Park Gate Florist in Oswestry, took up the 'Go Sober' challenge for 31 days, asking friends, family and customers for sponsorship.

She said: "It hasn't really been that difficult, it's more been getting out of the habit of going home and pouring yourself a drink.

"I haven't really missed having a drink, to be honest, it's been more about raising money for charity.

"I'd normally have the odd glass,

drink maybe a bottle of wine a week."

Miss Hubbard, 31, collected £575 from the sponsorship and added in the final £25 herself.

Money raised will go to Macmillan's work to support cancer patients.

A spokesman for the charity said: "By signing up to be a soberhero you are doing something amazing for people with cancer.

"All the money raised by those Going Sober this October will make sure that Macmillan can be there to help even more people take back

control from cancer. It will mean that we can be there right from the moment of diagnosis, through their treatment and beyond.

"It will mean we can be there to help give them the energy and support to take back control of their life.

"Your support will mean Macmillan can be there so that even more people don't have to face cancer alone."

For support or information about cancer from Macmillan call free on 0808 808 0000 or visit macmillan.org.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

Store's opening date announced

A DATE has been announced for the opening of Oswestry's latest new discount store.

The Aldi store in Shrewsbury Road, will open its doors to the public on December 10, officials have confirmed.

It will become the town's second Aldi store, operating alongside an existing shop in Oswald Road, which bosses say is operating at full capacity. There are no plans to close the Aldi store in Oswald Road.

The company says that the new supermarket will create 40 jobs including 25 full-time and 15 part-time roles.

The shop, next to the New Fairholme care home, was controversially granted planning permission in March amid protests over the demolition of a former historic toll house to make way for the store.

Worker suffers injuries to legs

A SITE worker suffered major injuries to his legs after an accident at a Mid Wales landfill site.

The 62-year-old man was working at Bryn Posteg landfill site in Tylwy Road, Llandiloes, when he was injured by machinery on the site.

Emergency services were called to the scene amid reports the man had suffered a double leg amputation after being hit by a lorry. But the extent of his injuries or the cause of the accident have not been confirmed.

Welshpool-based Potters Waste Management, which runs the site, confirmed that an incident took place at the site on Friday morning last week when an employee received serious leg injuries.

Gentleman Jim subject of talk

THE life and experiences of a gentleman soldier during World War One will be closely examined by an expert at a public talk.

Simon Jarman MBE will talk about James Speight – known as "Gentleman Jim" of the 20 DLI. Jim served from 1916 to 1918 when he was conscripted to serve in the trenches.

The talk will take place at Oswestry Library on Thursday next week, starting at noon, and tickets cost £2.50. To book a place call (01691) 677388.

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Company outlines reasons for its judicial review bid

Report by Sue Austin

A COMPANY which was refused planning permission to build a wind farm in Mid Wales said it will cost the region £8 million.

Renewable Energy Systems Limited (RES) wanted to build the wind farm in Llanbrynmai, near Machynlleth, but despite a planning inspector recommending it be given the go-ahead, the Department of Energy and Climate Change threw it out.

Now RES says it will proceed with a judicial review claim in respect of the Government's refusal. Managing director, Gordon MacDougall, said there had been a lack of adequate explanation for overturning the planning inspector's recommendation.

New health centres win top praise

THE Welsh Health Minister has praised new health centres near the Shropshire border for the difference they have made to patients.

Health Minister Mark Drakeford was given a tour of Castle Health Centre in Chirk with local Assembly Member Ken Skates, and also met staff and town council chairman Dewi Evans.

They then visited Llangollen Health Centre with Mr Skates' predecessor Karen Sinclair, who was instrumental in bringing the state-of-the-art facility to the town.

Mr Drakeford said: "Ken frequently tells me what fantastic facilities the Welsh Government has helped bring to Chirk and Llangollen, and it was wonderful to visit to see it for myself and to meet the teams."

"I was delighted to hear how the new health centres have greatly improved patients' experiences. Chirk and Llangollen are just two examples of how our investment in the NHS in North Wales is paying dividends for people every day."

The Chirk centre, on Colliery Road, opened last year and has a range of eco-friendly features including solar panels as well as a minor operations facility and pharmacy. Llangollen Health Centre opened its doors to the public in September.

After the visit Mr Skates said: "I'm extremely grateful to the Minister for taking the time to come to Clwyd South, and the staff at Chirk and Llangollen were delighted to host him. He was very impressed with what he saw."

In a letter addressed to Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies, Mr MacDougall said: "The department has not fully explained why it has disagreed with the planning inspector's judgement that the benefits of the scheme outweigh its impacts."

"In the case of Llanbrynmai wind farm, the inspector's judgment was that the project should be granted approval."

He said the Welsh Government has consistently demonstrated widespread support for renewable energy, evident in the TAN8 policy, which designates areas suitable for wind farm developments - including Llanbrynmai. He said: "RES estimates Llanbrynmai wind farm would deliver at least £8 million in local economic investment in the first year alone and local communities would benefit from some £7.5 million in community benefits over the project's lifetime. This includes an annual £180,000 community benefit fund in addition to an annual discount of £152 off the electricity bills of some 750 residential, commercial and community properties within 5km of the turbines at Llanbrynmai."

He added: "In the seven years that Llanbrynmai wind farm has been in the planning process, RES has invested several million pounds in the project - only to find that, despite Welsh Government support and a planning inspector's backing, this significant financial commitment, which would deliver very substantial inward and community investment, risks being written off."

In response, Mr Davies said he would be very surprised if the company was granted a judicial review. "There has to be a suggestion of some sort of legal failure for an application for a judicial review to succeed," he said. Opponents against the wind farm plans said the proposals would damage the countryside and the area's tourism industry and would have led to the building of a 33-mile power line between Cefn Coch near Llanfair Caeirin to Lower Frankton, near Oswestry.

Athlete joins runner's charity



Olympian Hannah Cockcroft is proud to be an ambassador for the 53 Foundation

PARALYMPIC and world wheelchair racing champion Hannah Cockcroft has become an ambassador for a charity founded by Shropshire's record-breaking marathon runner Amy Hughes.

The 53 Foundation was set up by Amy, 27, who is from West Felton, near Oswestry, and her partner, ex-Royal Marine Commando Dave Keighley, after she completed 53 marathons in 53 consecutive days in 53 different UK towns and cities last summer.

The charity's mission is to raise money and awareness for people with disabilities to help them become more active and have the opportunity for a healthier life.

Hannah, 23, competes in the T34 classification and is double Olympic and triple

world champion and world record holder over four race distances. Last month she competed at the IPC World Athletics Championships, claiming gold in the 800m event.

She met Amy when both women were invited to be part of the Modelled by Role Models campaign by Panache Lingerie, using inspirational women as models to promote a healthier body image.

Hannah said she was delighted to have the opportunity to work with Amy. "I was amazed by Amy's achievements, which were all in the name of helping others, and I'm really proud to be an ambassador to the 53 Foundation," she said.

To find out more about the foundation visit www.the53foundation.co.uk

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New town sub station will ensure lights will stay on

Report by Sue Austin

A NEW £12 million substation will ensure homes across parts of Shropshire and Mid Wales receive power for generations to come, according to officials.

The substation in Oswestry will keep the lights on for 130,000 homes and businesses, representatives of SP Energy Networks have said.

They said the three-year project to build the new facilities was essential to maintain the electricity network for decades to come.

The new plant has been operational since August, and those behind the project invited more than 30 members of the local community in to tour the facility on Friday last week.

Water plant work set to create jobs

A WATER treatment plant is undergoing a £54 million upgrade that will create 50 jobs while work is being carried out.

United Utilities is carrying out the work at the plant in Oswestry, which supplies most of Liverpool and parts of Cheshire.

The original works became operational in 1892 and have never stopped since then.

But engineers now plan to transform the Victorian plant into one suitable for the 21st century.

Project manager Graham Callanan from C2V+, which has been awarded the contract to work on the plant, said: "The works involve basically upgrading and modernising the existing old Victorian Oswestry water networks and the intention is to preserve drinking water for future generations and to make it more efficient and also to make it environmentally friendly in a population expansion." The water supply starts its journey 18 miles away at Lake Vyrnwy, where it then flows to a holding reservoir at Llanforda before it is treated at Oswestry and travels by gravity a further 50 miles to Prescot reservoir in Liverpool.

New technology which will be installed at the plant will allow engineers to retire the existing 23 slow sand filter beds, and will allow 210 million litres of water a day to be treated for customers.

Two hydro-turbines will also produce enough energy to power the site, with the daily surplus being sent into the National Grid.

The major construction project started in 2012, to replace the original substation which has been in operation since the 1960s. It has been finished on schedule and on budget.

Engineers installed the new infrastructure alongside the old equipment and the work was planned carefully to ensure that there were no interruptions to power supplies as the project progressed.

In the last few weeks the old substation has been officially retired, and all power supplies are now routed through the new installation.

Organisations represented on the tour of the substation included Shropshire Council, Oswestry Town Council and St Martin's Parish Council, local businesses and schools.

Mark Sobczak, head of 132kV programmes at SP Energy Networks, said: "We are pleased the project has been completed on schedule and on budget, and the new substation will help to ensure reliable supplies of electricity for homes and businesses across North Shropshire, Welshpool, Newtown and South Wrexham for decades to come."

"The new state-of-the-art substation will allow us greater flexibility to operate and maintain the electricity network. We were also delighted to invite members of the local community on to the site to see the work we have been carrying out for the last three years. This investment is designed to benefit the local community, so it was fantastic to have the opportunity to meet and talk with so many different community representatives." He said the demolition of the old substation is planned for spring next year. "This will coincide with the conservation elements of the project, to create a habitat for great crested newts. The demolition work has been carefully scheduled to ensure that it will not disrupt the hibernation period for newts."

Festive toy appeal launched



Shropshire Star deputy editor Mark Drew and receptionist Helen Riley take a look at some of the donated toys

A CHRISTMAS toy appeal has been launched to bring some festive cheer to children in the region.

The appeal has been launched by the Oswestry and Border Chronicle's sister paper The Shropshire Star.

Toys can be dropped off at our offices in Salop Road, Oswestry, during office hours and they will be passed on to the Shropshire Star appeal.

Readers should call at the back door of the office, opposite Sainsbury's, to drop off the toys.

The toys will be given to a number of children's charities and organisations.

A number have already signed up and more are expected to follow.

But you can be assured that the gifts you

give will help make Christmas special for children who are facing challenges or an uncertain future. One of the organisations taking part in the Christmas Toy Appeal is Hope House Children's Hospice at Morda near Oswestry.

Shropshire Star deputy editor Mark Drew said he looked forward to the appeal being able to help bring a touch of Christmas magic to as many youngsters as possible.

He said: "The people of Shropshire and Mid Wales are extremely big-hearted, and we're hoping to harness that generosity to ensure that as many youngsters as possible will have the Christmas we would want for our own children."

● Turn to Page 36 to read about the work of Hope House Children's Hospice

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

I had to do a double take this week when I spotted there had been discussions about increasing the number of Welsh Assembly Members from 60 to 80 – or even 100.

It seems MPs and AMs met this week to discuss next year's Draft Wales Bill which would give the Assembly powers to increase the number of AMs. Prior to that an Assembly Commission, which runs the day-to-day administration of the organisation, suggested 100 AMs were needed.

The commission said that moving to 100 AMs would add £17 million to the £50million budget which it said was "a modest and reasonable price to pay for effective scrutiny of £15bn of public spending each year." Moving from 60 to 80 will cost an additional £9 million.

Have these people gone completely crazy? In the same breath they have slashed funding to county councils across Wales, particularly Powys, where essential services are now under threat. How can this ever be justified when at the same time Parliament looks set to reduce the number of MPs from 650 to 600 with at least 10 Welsh MPs seeing their seats vanish?

I regularly question what the Welsh Assembly Government has actually done to improve my life and apart from receiving free medical prescriptions I struggle to find anything. I would gladly sacrifice free prescriptions for a better health service, particularly here on the Shropshire/Powys border where the postcode lottery means many are not receiving the treatment they deserve.

I'll be surprised to hear much more about this until after next May's Assembly elections but it's well worth considering which way your candidate would vote when the decision time comes.

More importantly it's worth considering which way you would vote today. In 1979 the vote was four to one against and in 1997 just 50.3 per cent voted in favour, with the decision going right down to the last ballot box ...

I can't help feeling the introduction of "Community Speed Watch Schemes" across Shropshire will turn out to be a waste of volunteers' time.

Villagers are being used to monitor speeds travelled by vehicles with trained volunteers using hand-held speed cameras. Where vehicle speeds are found to be too fast, a letter is sent to the registered keeper by the police with the aim of encouraging them to reduce their speed.

I suspect the majority of motorists who receive such letters will simply heave a sigh of relief and carry on as usual. Don't send meaningless letters to speeders – hit them in the pocket. Then they'll think twice about breaking the limit.



Rose Paterson has been a great support to her husband Owen and his political career



Rose Paterson is looking forward to concentrating on her own career



The couple have worked together very closely throughout Owen's career in politics

Rose hands over PA reins to follow her own career

Changes are pending for husband and wife team Rose and Owen Paterson. SUE AUSTIN explains

"WHAT did you do at the office today dear?" is something that Rose Paterson has been unable to say to her husband – until now.

For Rose is not only the wife of North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson, but for the past 18 years she had also been his Shropshire based personal assistant and office manager.

Now she is handing over the reins to a new PA, to concentrate on her own, extremely busy career.

It is a decision that six years ago she thought she would be forced to take, when the government looked at banning close family members from working for MPs.

Opposed

The idea was fiercely opposed by both Mr Paterson and his wife, and it is their own circumstances that have now led to the change.

Last year Rose, whose official title is the Hon Mrs Paterson, became chairman of Aintree Racecourse having been a committee director.

And she has also taken on the chairmanship of the Weston Park Foundation the independent charitable trust that owns and maintains the Weston Park estate on the Shropshire/Staffordshire border.

Stepping down as her husband's PA will, she admits, be strange.

"I have really enjoyed it and have been privileged to be able to work from home and for Owen.



Owen and Rose Paterson look through his busy schedule

"You couldn't have a nicer person to work for," she said.

"He has had to put up with a lot, having me as a PA.

"I have been rather a blunt critic sometimes, something only a wife could be."

"I will miss being involved in his work although obviously as an MP's wife I will still be involved in the constituency.

"I will still be accompanying him to events."

Dream

Her role at Aintree is a dream come true.

"I have always loved racing.

"As a schoolgirl I would run a book on racing and of course I knew more about racing than the others.

North Shropshire MP has changed over the past 18 years.

She said: "In the beginning it was about getting Owen established as the MP.

"With John Biffen he had very big shoes to fill.

"Then he joined the government from being in opposition and the biggest change was when he was minister."

She said one of the best times was when her husband was the minister for Northern Ireland even though she admitted it was difficult to get used to having 24 hour security.

Security

"We had to be completely organised and let our security know our every move. I have to admit we did use to escape sometimes. But Northern Ireland was a wonderful experience."

"It is such a fascinating place and the people are wonderful," she said.

"We really enjoyed our time both in Northern Ireland and the time we spent in the Republic of Ireland."

Yet PA to the Minister for the Environment was not such a good experience.

"I certainly won't miss the tirade of abuse, and very personal abuse, we had from the anti-badger cull campaigners. I would pick up the phone and be subjected to vile abuse."

"What I won't be is a back seat driver. Owen has an excellent team working with him and although I won't be any less interested, I am not going to get by giving advice."

The North Shropshire MP says he is extremely proud of his wife in her work for Aintree and Weston Park.

"I am more than happy to take a back seat and support her," he said.

"She has done so much to support me, it is great to be able to do the same for her."

Anyone wanting to contact Mr Paterson's office for diary engagements should contact Alex on 0207 2195186 or guyvera@paterson.uk.

WORKING FOR YOU



I have been campaigning for better train services to and from North Shropshire since I was elected in 1997. As part of my pledge to build on this work, I included improving transport links as a key priority in my re-election campaign. I am therefore determined to see improvements to roads and rail services.

As part of this commitment I have arranged a further meeting with Virgin Trains in the House of Commons next week. During the last franchise bid both main bidders included the restoration of the service to Shrewsbury and it is almost a year since the new direct rail link between Shrewsbury and London opened. This followed a long campaign by the local MPs, working closely with the Transport Secretary, Patrick McLoughlin, to re-establish this service.

This service is already bringing real benefits to the people of North Shropshire. It was terrible that we lost Wrexham and Shropshire as it served North Shropshire directly. For the whole of North Shropshire to get the most out of it we need to make the case to extend the service north of Shrewsbury to Gobowen and Wrexham. It is vital, therefore, that people use the Shrewsbury train so that we can make a strong case for the extension. I plan further meetings with Network Rail to discuss increased investment in the line and improvements to points which will increase line speeds between Wrexham and Shrewsbury.

I have had a positive letter from the Transport Secretary following our recent meeting, outlining the Government's plans for local roads. He estimates that the costs of the proposed widening of the A5 to a dual carriageway is estimated to be £11.9million per mile. Highways England estimate that this would take six to eight years to deliver but cost and timescales would depend on the specific circumstances of any proposed scheme.

The Secretary of State confirmed that he will liaise with me regarding a meeting in Shrewsbury to look at potential plans. This will give evidence to Road Investment Strategy 2 in 2016. At the meeting, I also raised the issue of the Pant/Llanymynech Bypass which is probably the UK's longest running bypass campaign. When I met him before the election, the then Minister, John Hayes, confirmed that officials were in touch with their Welsh Government counterparts to discuss how cross border issues could be resolved and he expressed a willingness to see how the two governments could work together. It is vital therefore that we press on and I will work closely with Ministers on this.

Owen Paterson
North Shropshire MP

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Letters

A clear democracy is vital at all times

DO we need to renew the way we do our democracy?

In May this year the electorate had their say and wanted to have their voice heard at the ballot box – which is why, in my opinion, we saw there being such a spread of votes between all of the different parties.

Of course we can reform the voting system, but what about having having the electorate's voice heard between now and the next election?

When we look at politics at a national level with out Members of Parliament and Assembly Members there are already defined methods which do not always work,

but they are there to support the public to have their voice heard.

Such methods include petitions and lobbying, but when we get to county and local politics these methods disappear or are not taken as seriously.

We have methods for young people to have their voice heard, which is very important, and they shouldn't be cut.

But when someone is 25, 45 or 85 the whole situation changes at a local level and this should be changed.

It is important now, more than ever, when hard decisions are made that our democracy stays accountable and transparent

so that there is confidence in our councils. To keep our councils accountable there needs to be new methods to engage the electorate.

It's not only about engaging but it's also about making sure the elected members listen and act for the best interests of their constituents.

The British democratic system may not be perfect but it is one which is held in high esteem across the world – and it is one which can achieve change and make a difference.

**JACK GILLUM
Knighton**

New book on energy reveals the real truth about nuclear

FOR those on a fixed income these must be truly testing and worrying times when a foolish British Government is prepared to spend, including foreign investment, the extraordinary sum of £25 billion on a single 3200MW nuclear power station, destined for low-lying land on the Somerset shore of the Severn Estuary.

Has Japan not taught those who govern us anything at all? How idiotic when the world is awash with cheap gas, and the new generation of efficient gas-fired power stations such as the Pembrokehire 20000MW CCGT power station, are twice as clean as coal and can be built in under half the time for that of a nuclear power station.

This is why everyone and indeed politicians should be reading a new fascinating book titled, "21st Century Electricity" (ISBN 978-1-78507-390-8).

A book which clearly shows the nuclear emperor has no clothes, and also exposes the great scam of costly and expensive wind farms in the UK.

There is so much more – alternative means of producing power, weather and climate, and the added bonus of showing the reader how to reduce energy in the home.

I should be totally honest though and admit that I quite like a Chinese takeaway and delight in the occasional glass or two of French wine. It's their expensive electricity I am not happy with.

**PATRICIA HASKELL
Brithdir
Cardigan**

Volunteering gives benefits

EACH year Make a Difference Day encourages people to do something meaningful for a good cause, so I'd like to tell you readers all about the many and varied benefits of volunteering.

I work for a great charity called Revitalise; we provide much-needed respite holidays for disabled people and carers. Volunteers are absolutely essential to us, and it is safe to say that we simply couldn't do what we do without them.

As a charity, Revitalise benefits hugely from the contribution of volunteers, but we have found that our volunteers benefit in a great many ways too. Did your readers know, for instance, that 95 per cent of our volunteers said the experience had improved their understanding and attitude towards disabled people and 77 per cent said it had inspired them to play a more active role in the community? And when it comes to the world of work, volunteering can really give you a boost in the race for jobs – 95 per cent of our young volunteers thought volunteering improves one's job prospects and, to prove the point, over half of our young volunteers now in work said volunteering had helped them get their jobs. For more about Revitalise, visit www.revitalise.org.uk or call 0303 303 0145.

**COLIN BROOK
www.revitalise.org.uk**

Family link to image of town butcher shop



Derek Faulks found this photo years ago in his house at Sefton Place, Oswestry. He thought the shop in Leg Street dated back to the mid-1930s, although the photo looks like it might be a bit earlier than that. Standing in the doorway is his father's uncle George Faulks, and he thought the other man was his father's grandfather.

We want young to go for it and help their communities

WE want to make sure that health and safety fears don't stop young people getting involved in volunteering and social action.

With stories in the media about health and safety red-tape and risk-averse authorities, there is, perhaps, too great a perception that health and safety is something to be feared.

We at the British Safety Council are supporting an ambitious UK-wide campaign to encourage more young people to take practical action in the service of others.

A new website www.britsafe.org/speak-upstaysafe has been launched to support the #iwill campaign, which provides information and assurance to those who would like to help promote volunteering among 10-20 year olds. Many of the tasks involved are low risk, and more significant risks can be dealt with effectively by taking simple precautions.

So to volunteers, parents, teachers or individuals who want to encourage youth volunteering, we say – go for it.

**MIKE ROBINSON
British Safety Council**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
Oswestry Chronicle,
Kettley,
Telford, TF1 5HU

EMAIL

letters@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Robotic future poses questions

THERE'S been a great deal of programmes and interest recently in robotics; how in the future the machine will do all the mundane office and factory jobs.

What happens to the people made unemployed by this machine world? Will they train for new careers, take up more time with leisure and family life?

But if you're unemployed who will provide pay and assistance in this new brave world. Or am I being a Luddite?

**J R BROWN
Shrewsbury**

Health talks will be a chance to get some sense

ONE minute we hear that our two accident and emergency departments are working at full stretch.

So how can anybody even contemplate closing one?

Then we read that the Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (though not the Telford one) is under special measures as it has overspent its budget by more than £10 million.

Meanwhile NHS Future fit has spent up to £3 million and still hasn't come up with a decision about the future of our hospital provision, both in Shropshire and Telford.

What on earth is going on? The Oswestry Equality Group has invited two of the most senior NHS Futurefit team to come and explain the situation.

This will be on Thursday, November 19 at 7.30pm at The Centre, Oswestry.

This is one of the few chances that we have to ask our questions and try to get some sense.

Absolutely everybody is invited.

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Picture focus



A young girl peers over at the Remembrance Sunday events in Oswestry. Photos: Tim Mitchell Photography



Young and old took part in remembrance events

War tributes paid

PEOPLE young and old from all walks of life gathered in Oswestry and Welshpool to remember the fallen of more than a century of conflict during remembrance events.

From small children to pensioners the streets of towns throughout Shropshire and Mid Wales were packed with those wishing to mark the occasion of Remembrance Sunday. Churches across the region

Report by Sue Austin

were full to capacity as prayers for peace were said.

Military bands, dignitaries, mayors, scouts, guides, cubs and brownies were amongst those who took part in ceremonies across the region. In Oswestry a parade left the Guildhall to make its way to Cae Glas Park for a memorial service.

Among those paying their respects in Oswestry were North Shropshire MP Owen

Paterson who was joined by civil dignitaries as well as town and county councillors.

Welshpool's parade began from Park Lane and went on to St Mary's Church for a service.

It then returned to the Town Hall for a wreath laying. One of the biggest parades was held in Shrewsbury.

A 50-minute service at St Chad's Church was led by The Reverend Mark Chadwick, vicar of St Chad's. In his sermon, Rev Chadwick recalled that 5,286 men from Shropshire had died in the First World War.



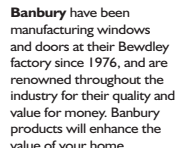
North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson and civic leaders were among the dignitaries who took part in the remembrance events in Oswestry

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Ambulances missing out on targets

AMBULANCES are failing to reach patients with life-threatening conditions quickly enough in Shropshire, new figures have revealed.

Government targets state three out of every four ambulances must get to the most urgent calls within eight minutes or less.

But West Midlands Ambulance Service has missed the gold standard of 75 per cent in three of the last four months in Telford – and has only hit it seven times in the last 15 months.

In Shropshire it has missed the target in both of the last two months, with just three in five getting to emergencies within the deadline.

Ambulance bosses say the failure is down to lack of funding and claim they will need 500 more staff across Shropshire to ensure the strict targets are met.

In Telford, the eight-minute target was missed for 16 out of 60 so-called 'Red 1' cases in July, and 14 out of 54 in August. In the Shropshire Council area, which is more rural, even fewer ambulances made it to patients within the target time. Available figures show 70.1 per cent met the target in September and 60.8 per cent in October.

Fire leads to car being destroyed

A CAR was destroyed after it caught fire on the A5.

The fire happened just before 5pm on Friday last week at Queens Head, near Oswestry.

One fire crew from Oswestry was sent to the scene, along with an operations officer and the police. A spokesman for Shropshire Fire and Rescue said: "We were called at 5.05pm and our crews left the scene at 5.28pm."

GHP Legal has a large client base across region

WE MEAN BUSINESS

THE Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates Oswestry's businesses. This week we celebrate GHP Legal.

Employing almost 100 people across its four offices in Oswestry, Llangollen, Chirk and Wrexham, the multi-disciplinary practice of GHP Legal has a private and business client base stretching across more than ten counties in England and Wales.

Now one of the largest law firms in the area, the firm moved into Oswestry in 2000 when it took over the Willow Street practice of A W Brown & Lloyd. The firm's more recent acquisition of Chirk and Oswestry law firm Stevens Lucas, in October, demonstrates the firm's clear intention to remain in the town, serving and employing local people. Emyr Richard Lloyd, a former partner of Brown & Lloyd, is now Senior Partner at GHP Legal. A member of the Country Landowners Association specialising in agricultural, commercial and property matters, Richard heads up the firm's property department. Another longstanding partner of Brown & Lloyd who subsequently became a partner of GHP Legal is former Shropshire County cricketer, John Hulme, a spinal injuries and clinical negligence specialist. In a similar vein, Patrick Stevens and Linda Hill, partners of Stevens Lucas, will continue to work for their clients under the GHP Legal banner.



Richard Lloyd and Patrick Stevens from GHP Legal

NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting to focus on health issues

FUTURE Fit bosses will discuss the current state of hospital services at a public meeting.

People will be able to quiz the healthcare experts at the meeting, which has been organised by Oswestry Equality Group. NHS Future Fit has recently delayed a decision about the future of hospital and urgent care in Shropshire. Representatives of the project will talk about the current situation before taking questions.

Penny Rice, from Oswestry Equality Group, said: "There are so many questions that we need to ask. For example why wasn't a decision about the future of our hospital provision made on October 1 as promised? How much is all this costing, especially now the Shropshire CCG is under special measures due to their overspend? What exactly is an urgent care centre? And will we get one if we don't have any beds in Oswestry?" The meeting on Thursday will start at 7.30pm at The Centre in Oak Street, Oswestry. Admission will be £1.

Burglar used bin to access property

A BURGLAR broke into a house by climbing on to a wheelie bin to reach the upstairs windows while the resident was sitting downstairs watching television.

The intruder made their way on to the roof of the house before getting inside through a window and taking a wallet containing cash from one of the upstairs rooms before making their escape, according to police.

The theft happened between noon and 3pm on October 24 at an address in Queen's Head, near Oswestry.

Anyone who saw or heard anything suspicious is asked to contact West Mercia Police on 101.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Chief's vow on front line police

A POLICE and crime commissioner has pledged to reduce top tier management rather than front line officers out on the beat.

Dyfed-Powys Police commissioner Christopher Salmon insisted front line officers were his priority echoing his previous call stressing the importance of keeping "bobbies on the beat".

Mr Salmon made the claim after spending a day in Newtown last week as part of his Your Voice Day tour of the area.

It comes after Bill Longmore, police and crime commissioner for West Mercia, backed a trial being carried out in Cambridgeshire that sees police speaking to victims of crime via Skype rather than calling at their homes.

Items stolen from town centre shop

POLICE have said perfume and razors were stolen from a town centre shop in Welshpool.

The goods were taken from the Boots shop in Welshpool's Broad Street.

Police are appealing to the public for help catching the person responsible and have issued a description of the suspect they would like to speak to.

The suspect has been described as white male, approximately 5ft4ins tall, with a bald head, and wearing blue jeans and a green hoodie.

The theft happened at about 3.25pm on Wednesday last week.

Call Constable Lindsay Sweetman at Welshpool police station on 101 with information.

Hundreds of motorists caught flouting rules

Report by Pam Kingsley

ALMOST 400 drivers were caught using their mobile phones behind the wheel during a two-week campaign.

The motorists were spotted during a crackdown held in Mid Wales. It was aimed at urging road users to keep their eyes on the road and not be distracted by answering their mobile phone, reading a text or going online.

The project was led by Dyfed-Powys Police and saw officers from all four Welsh police forces and GoSafe carry out patrols to target motorists who endangered other road users. Those stopped were educated on the penalties they faced if caught.

During the campaign Dyfed-Powys Police caught and dealt with 388 offenders.

Throughout Wales a total of 571 mobile phone driving offences were dealt with, and 177 warnings issued.

But the figures were down on last year's campaign, when 914 mobile phone driving offences were logged up throughout Wales, and Dyfed-Powys Police issued 447 fixed penalty notices.

Across the West Mercia force area, which covers Shropshire, some 2,311 people were fined for using a mobile phone or other hand held device while driving or riding between September 2014 and last month.

Carl Langley, Deputy Chief Constable of Dyfed-Powys Police, said: "No call, text, app, or email is that important – they must all wait until you've stopped driving."

Young swan is rescued by RSPCA



The swan that had been rescued and released back into the River Severn

A SWAN had to be rescued and then released back into the River Severn after being found in a field near Welshpool, RSPCA officers have revealed.

A concerned member of the public contacted bosses at the animal charity after spotting the young swan in their paddock area at Pool Quay on the outskirts of Welshpool on Monday last week.

RSPCA inspector Phil Lewis said the rescue and the release was successful.

Inspector Lewis said: "The swan was unharmed, but sadly in the next field there was a body of a swan that had hit power lines in the fog."

"I collected the cygnet and then released him into the River Severn at Welshpool."

"We urge members of the public to report any possible sightings of swans in trouble to the RSPCA's 24-hour helpline, as the birds often get into trouble after ingesting fishing tackle and other things."

Anyone who spots an animal in distress should call the RSPCA's 24-hour helpline on 0300 1234 999.

Ramblers to take on walk of six miles

RAMBLERS will take on a six-mile walk on the Shropshire/Mid Wales border on Saturday.

Members of Welshpool Ramblers will be in the Montgomery area to complete a circular route.

The walk will be led by Van Evans. Organisers said the walk on Saturday will include the town hall war memorial, the castle and part of Offa's Dyke Path.

Those taking part should meet at 10am in the car park adjacent to the playing fields off the B4385 Bishop's Castle Street on the edge of Montgomery.

Alternatively people can meet, at 9.30am in the upper part of Church Street car park, Welshpool, from where shared transport may be available.

All are welcome, but no dogs are allowed on the walk. For further information call (01938) 590307.

The group's next walk will be on November 29 in the Welshpool area, and the final walk of 2015 will be on December 13 from Powis Castle, returning for lunchtime refreshments at a booked table in the castle restaurant.

Care staff are in contest's finals

A CARE provider and three of its staff members have reached the final stages of the Great British Care Awards.

Michael McNeil, Sam Evans and Rebecca Roberts from Powys-based Abacare have attended judging in their categories and will be at the award ceremony tomorrow (Friday).

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Practice Manager
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Please feel free to contact me should you need any further information.



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The new B&M store in Oswestry's Penda Retail Park on Salop Road concentrates on home and garden ware



Mayor Peter Cherrington helped launch the new store

Town's new jobs joy

A NEW discount store has opened in Oswestry, creating 80 new jobs.

The new B&M store has taken over Oswestry's former Homebase centre on the Penda Retail Park on Salop Road.

Homebase closed its doors in September but all employees who applied for jobs at the new B&M were successful.

The company already has a shop in Oswestry town centre but says the new shop will concentrate on home and garden wares.

It is the latest success for Oswestry in attract-

Report by Pam Kingsley

ing high street names to the town. In the summer another discount store, The Original Factory Shop, opened a shop in the former Regal Cinema building on English Walls.

Oswestry Mayor Peter Cherrington opened the new store.

He said: "It is good news that such a large retail until has been let so quickly after Homebase closed."

Meanwhile seven new jobs will be created in

Welshpool as part of a company's expansion plans. Dynacast has begun work on an extension to its business and will take on the new staff in the new year.

The company works in precision engineering and die casting.

The new jobs follow on from the announcement that 50 new jobs will be created at a manufacturer in Welshpool.

Intertek Drives is set to expand its operations with the building of a new facility beside its existing base.



The new B&M store has filled the retail space left by the closure of Homebase and the move has created 80 new jobs for Oswestry

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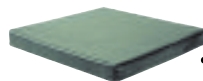
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Christmas Live - 4th December

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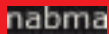
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Town ready for the big Christmas switch-on



Super marathon girl Amy Hughes switched on last year's Oswestry Christmas lights

THE festive season in Oswestry is all set for launch, with a host of activities planned to keep everyone in town happy this Christmas.

Once again the festive season will be officially launched with the turning-on of the town's Christmas lights.

This year the lights will be lit up on Thursday next week.

The lights will be switched on with a ceremony on the Bailey Head starting at 4pm.

Advertising Feature

Oswestry Town Council has organised a feast of festive music from the stage that will be on the Bailey Head.

Performances will come from Belan House Choir, Holy Trinity School Choir, Our Lady Roman Catholic School Choir, The Marches School Choir, The Meadows Primary School Choir, Woodside School Choir, The Derwen College Makaton Choir and Stagecoach.

James Bond, of BBC Radio Shropshire will be the host and the Mayor

Councillor Peter Cherrington will be there to welcome everybody.

Each year the town asks a special guest who lives locally to turn on the lights. Last year super marathon girl Amy Hughes was given the honour.

This year the lights will be officially switched on by the original 'Bungle The Bear' from the hit children's TV series Rainbow. For the younger visitors then Olaf the snowman from the film Frozen will also be there to entertain everyone.

There is even an opportunity to have your picture taken with him at Max Spielmann once the event is finished.

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NOEL CRUMBLE (V)

Golden almond sponge layered with Bramley apples enriched with treacle, topped with a crunchy crumble. Served with custard

* Festive grazer is available when two people order this dish to share. Not available as a single person dish.

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Oswestry offers a fantastic festive shopping experience to shoppers from near and far

WHEN it comes to Christmas shopping, Oswestry has it all wrapped up for you.

The town is known for its strong mix of small independent traders who sit shoulder to shoulder with larger national chains, offering a comprehensive shopping service.

Many visitors to the town say the main reason they come to Oswestry is its independent retailers, especially to hunt down that hard-to-find

and unique Christmas gift. The town centre boasts many market leading independent shops offering a friendly service and great value.

Work is continuing to improve the retail experience for everyone in Oswestry.

That work is being driven forward by bosses at the Oswestry Chamber of Commerce.

They are working on plans to have a late night shopping event in Oswestry on December 11.

They hope the move will increase

footfall in the town and give the area's firms a business boost during the vitally important Christmas season.

The late night shopping plan is just one of many ideas the chamber has come up with in the past few months.

Another new initiative is a chamber ambassadors programme.

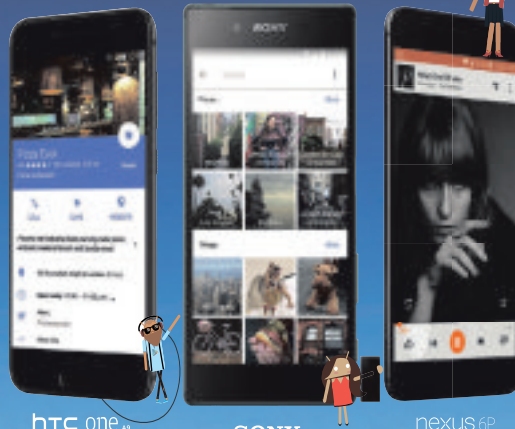
Ambassadors have been appointed by the chamber to spread the word among the business community about what is going on in the town and to tell firms about events which will be of interest to them.

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1.00pm-3.30pm £18.50

Latvian Mittens: Saturday 21st November
Learn to knit braids, scallops and fringes into these beautifully intricate mittens from Latvia. We will discuss the colours, origins and symbolism of patterns associated with Latvian knitting
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Community supports town's Christmas fun



Many families turn out to support Oswestry's festive events including its Christmas parade

THERE is plenty of community spirit around Oswestry during the festive season, ensuring Christmas is always a great time for families.

The town council is once again hosting Oswestry Christmas Live to get everyone in the festive spirit.

Oswestry Christmas Live will be held on Friday, December 4. The huge annual event is in its 11th year.

There will be fairground rides, an ice rink, a music stage, a Christmas mar-

Advertising Feature

ket, fireworks, Santa's Grotto and lots more. There will be late night shopping throughout the town. Oswestry Christmas Live runs from 6pm until 10pm.

Meanwhile, Oswestry's Christmas Parade takes place on Saturday, December 5.

Last year, more than 80 groups took part in the parade, and Geoff Barre, Oswestry Borderland Rotary Club member, said he is hoping to better it this year.

He said: "Last year was magnificent. In fact the last few have been events to really be proud of. So many people take part and attend the crowds and we want to make it bigger and better than ever." Seven years ago the parade was in danger of folding because just two or three floats were taking part. The Borderland Rotary Club stepped in to stop the procession from disappearing from the town's festive calendar. Over the years the rotary club has encouraged more and more groups, organisations and businesses to join in with floats, smaller vehicles and even walking fancy dress entries.

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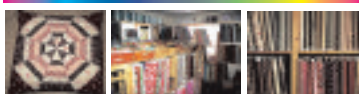
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Market offers great festive bargains for all



The Powis Hall indoor market in Oswestry is full of friendly and expert stallholders

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The Powis Hall indoor market has dozens of stalls offering a whole host of gift ideas as well as services and produce for any time of the year.

The market has remained an important part of Oswestry's retail scene

and the stallholders not only give a friendly service but are also happy to share their experience and expertise no matter what you are looking for.

The market is a great time to visit any time of the year but in the run-up to Christmas it can really get shoppers into the festive spirit.

Oswestry not only boasts an indoor market but also has an outdoor market on the Bailey Head.

Markets have been a major part of the trading and historical importance of Oswestry and have existed

for many centuries. The first known charter was granted during the reign of Henry II when the town was known as Whiteminster.

The Powis Hall was the town hall or Guildhall until premises adjacent were built in 1782. From this date until 1960 the building was used as a corn exchange, then as a butter and cheese market, and during the Second World War for emergency storage and for auxiliary fire service purposes. The hall was reconstructed in 1963 to its present design.

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Police appeal over missing boy

A TEENAGE boy is missing from his home in the Welshpool area, according to police.

Jayden Eran Cope has been missing from the Welshpool area since Wednesday evening last week.

Dyfed-Powys Police has called for anyone who knows anything about Jayden's potential whereabouts to get in touch.

Jayden, who is 14 years old, is described as white, about 5ft 6inches tall, stocky build and dark hair.

He was last seen in the Trelystan area of Welshpool at 8pm on Wednesday last week and was wearing blue Adidas trousers and top and blue Nike trainers.

He is originally from the Wolverhampton area and police say it is possible he may have travelled there.

Police in Wolverhampton have raised awareness of Jayden's disappearance on social media in the hope of getting people to come forward.

Anyone with information is asked to call Dyfed-Powys Police on 101 and quote reference 370 of November 4.

Laughter club can lift the mood

SUFFERS OF SAD – Seasonal Affective Disorder – are being urged to get a weekly dose of therapeutic laughter and yoga.

Organisers of the Oswestry Laughter Club say it can help sufferers to feel happier and healthier.

Founded in March 2013 the club meets every Tuesday evening from 6pm to 7pm at the Quaker Meeting House, Oak Street, Oswestry.

The Oswestry Laughter Club is free of charge, donations only.

For further information visit www.laughtertime.co.uk or call 07861 388307.

Housing scheme will bring jobs boost to area

Report by Pam Kingsley

WORK has begun on a housing development in Oswestry.

The builders say the scheme will bring investment and a jobs boost.

David Wilson Homes is building 65 homes at Montgomery Place on Morda Road, creating 130 jobs.

As well as building homes the company will also be investing more than £300,000 in the community.

John Fitzgerald, managing director at David Wilson Homes Mercia, which is building the houses for Barratt Homes, said: "We are delighted to get work under way at Montgomery Place so we can begin building our quality new homes for local people."

"As well as building homes, we will also be investing in the area so people throughout Oswestry will feel the benefits."

"We are excited about creating a new community of high quality homes for local people, all built to the exceptional standards that people expect from a David Wilson Homes development."

Workers at the site have unearthed the remains of livestock slaughtered during a foot and mouth disease cull.

About 30 animal carcasses lie underground at the development which is being built on the site of an animal burial ground used following the initial outbreak of the disease in 1967.

Officials at the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) confirmed they had been contacted by the developers.

An APHA spokesperson said: "Animal carcasses will be exhumed under the supervision of APHA and will be disposed of at an approved site."

Town traders get into the spirit



Amy Stephens gets her face painted by Sue Box at the Halloween market while witch Sarah Nash watches

TRADERS in Oswestry have been getting into the spirits of the seasons over recent weeks by taking part in various traditional celebrations.

Many of the traders in the town's markets got into fancy dress costume to take part in recent Halloween celebrations.

The town hosted a Halloween

market on the Bailey Head and youngsters from near and far took part in the celebrations by taking up the offer of having their face painted while there were various other activities and attractions on offer too. The Halloween market is the latest event in a series of activities the town is hosting to increase footfall.

The town's Christmas lights will be switched on during a ceremony on the Bailey Head on Thursday.

The town's Christmas Live event, which will include an ice rink and a fairground, will take place on December 4 while the town's Christmas parade will take place on the following day.

Councils hit back at claim over salaries for officers

COUNCIL chiefs have rubbished a report which claims more than 30 officers are picking up six-figure salaries.

Pressure group the TaxPayers' Alliance claim there are eight officers at Telford & Wrekin Council on £100,000 or more and a further two on £150,000-plus.

The group said at Shropshire Council there were 14 employees earning six figures, although none earned over £150,000.

And at Powys County Council, where chief executive Jeremy Patterson was the highest earner on £168,655, six others earned more than £100,000, the report said.

But the councils have hit out at the figures for the financial year 2013/14 as being out of date and misleading. Councillor Kuldip Sahota, leader of Telford & Wrekin Council, said: "Since 2010 the council has reduced its senior management structure by over 50 per cent and cut most senior pay by 25 per cent in real terms."

"The figures from the TaxPayers' Alliance are out of date. The comparative published figures for 2014/5 show that the council has four officers whose annual salaries are over £100,000. Those four officers have had their pay frozen since 2011."

Councillor Barry Thomas, Powys County Council leader, said the authority had a pay policy which aimed to "attract, retain and motivate" suitably skilled staff.

He also said the figures were out of date and that the pay band for the chief executive post was now between £124,000 and £132,000.

He said three other officers were on a salary band between £98,000 and £102,000.

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15 Reg	Skoda Fabia, SE 5dr EST 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 10926mls, £20 RFL	£15,215	£3,220	£11,995
15 Reg	Skoda Rapid, SE Tech 5dr HBK 1.6 Diesel, FSH, 10158mls, £20 RFL	£18,365	£6,370	£11,995
15 Reg	Skoda Rapid, Sport 5dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 6663mls, £30 RFL	£16,095	£4,100	£11,995
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14 Reg	Skoda Rapid, SE GreenTech 5dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 14042mls, £30 RFL	£9,495
15 Reg	Skoda Octavia, Elegance 5dr HBK 2.0 Diesel, FSH, 13446mls, £20 RFL	£17,995
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School fashion show will have a royal connection

CLOTHES and accessories by the London designers responsible for dressing the Duchess of Cambridge and her sister Pippa Middleton will be seen on a catwalk in Shropshire.

Students at Moreton Hall School, near Oswestry, will host a fashion show on Thursday next week to raise money for charity, and have managed to persuade designers Edwina Ibbotson and Katharine Hooker to donate items for the event.

Sixth-former Olivia Holroyd said: "We

Report by Pam Kingsley

wanted to raise money for the children's hospice Hope House as well as the fund which supplies bursaries which allow girls from all backgrounds to come to Moreton. We also wanted to make sure it was as professional as possible and contacting the Duchess of Cambridge's designers seemed the best way forward. We are thrilled they agreed to take part."

"As with everything at Moreton there is a great team spirit surrounding the show. The school drivers, who take girls back to London at weekend leave and half term, are transporting clothes in their buses.

"Edwina Ibbotson and Katharine Hooker have donated a hat and a coat respectively for the raffle.

"It ought to be a magical evening." Parents and friends of the school will be able to enjoy an evening of dinner and high style, and even the chance to buy clothes usually only available in London.

Tickets for the event, which cost £35, are available from Melissa Evans on evansm@moretonhall.com

Raffle tickets can also be purchased in advance.

For those attending the event, raffle tickets cost £10 each, or £15 each for non-attendees.



There will be some top style on show at the fashion event

Health chiefs to meet over finance issue

HEALTH chiefs are to go on an "away day" in the next few weeks to draw up a plan to tackle a £10 million-plus black hole in its finances, it has been revealed.

The meeting, which will include healthcare leaders from a number of organisations covering Shropshire, will attempt to find ways to help Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

It comes after Shropshire CCG, which is the organisation responsible for buying in services for hospitals and GP surgeries in the county, was last week placed in special measures. It also announced it was forecast to be £10.6 million in the red by next April.

The move was revealed at a meeting of Telford & Wrekin CCG on Tuesday, which heard the group covering the east of the county was faring much better financially and was still on track to meet its planned £2.1 million surplus by year end.

David Evans, chief officer of Telford & Wrekin CCG, told the meeting it would be wrong to say the problems solely lay with one organisation.

"We need to look at this as a health economy problem rather than the problem of an individual organisation," he said.

"All of the chief officers of the various organisations are signed up to the fact it is a health economy problem, and we are looking at it from a health economy perspective.

"We are looking at a deficit reduction plan.

"It's at the very early stages, but we are looking at an away day with all health partners in a couple of weeks.

"The purpose of it will be to come up with a coherent deficit reduction plan to deliver a balanced budget in the next four of five years."

Special constable drive welcomed

SHROPSHIRE'S crime chief has welcomed the news that more special constables are being recruited.

Around 130 new applicants are currently being assessed by West Mercia Police.

West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner Bill Longmore, said: "The subject of special constables has been in the spotlight recently, and I agree with the points that have been raised. We do want to see more special constables and we also wanted to develop a better recruitment process for them. That is now in place, as well as a new training process which offers more flexibility for applicants.

"Having more special constables to support regular officers is something I

raised a long time ago, and considerable effort has gone into setting up this new process, which only started this month, and is clearly already showing positive results.

"I would encourage anyone who wants to volunteer to be a special constable to do so."

"All you need is a desire to make your community a better place to live and work in. Special constables have the same policing powers as regular officers and there are also opportunities to work within specialist areas such as criminal investigation and roads policing," he added.

To apply to become a special constable and learn more about the role visit <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/specialconstables>

Talks on drone use

THE role of drones in war zones will be examined at a group's next meeting.

Chris Cole will look at the latest developments in the growing use of armed drones, examining the legal questions arising from the UK's recent drone targeted killing in Syria, the implications of the government's commitment to buy – and use – more drones, and the ever growing threat of drone proliferation.

The talk, illustrated with excerpts from documentaries, has been organised by Oswestry Coalition for Peace.

It will take place at Hermon Chapel in Chapel Street, Oswestry.

The talk will be held on November 25 at 7.30pm and is free.

For further information call (01691) 650527.

ADVERTISEMENT

RELAX YOUR WAY TO PERFECT HEALTH

CUTTING-EDGE scientific research now proves what the yogis have always known: deep relaxation can have a profound effect on a wide range of medical conditions.

Deep relaxation changes our bodies on a genetic level

It's a piece of advice that yogis have given for thousands of years: take a deep breath and relax. Watch the tension melt from your muscles and all your niggling worries vanish. Somehow we all know that relaxation is good for us. Now the hard science has caught up – for a comprehensive study showing that deep relaxation changes our bodies on a genetic level has been published.

MORE "DISEASE FIGHTING GENES" WITH RELAXATION

What researchers at Harvard Medical School discovered is that, in long – term practitioners of relaxation methods such as yoga and meditation, far more "disease fighting genes" were active, compared to those who practised no form of relaxation.

The 'relaxation effect' is just as powerful as any medical drug

In particular, they found genes that protect from disorders such as pain, infertility, high blood pressure and even rheumatoid arthritis were switched on. The changes, say the researchers, were induced by what they call "the relaxation effect", a phenomenon that could be just as powerful as any medical drug but without the side – effects.

"We found that a range of disease – fighting genes were active in the relaxation practitioners that were not active in the control group," explains Dr Herbert Benson, associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, who led

the research.

The good news for the control group with the less-healthy genes is that the research didn't stop there. The experiment, which showed just how responsive genes are to behaviour, mood and environment, revealed that genes can switch on, just as easily as they switch off.

"Harvard researchers asked the control group to start practising relaxation methods every day," explains Alan Sharrock, a relaxation expert, who has developed a programme of deep relaxation combined with light therapy and mindfulness which is transforming the lives of 1000's of Shropshire people. "After two months, their bodies began to change – the genes that help fight inflammation, kill diseased cells and protect the body from illness, all began to switch on."

LESS PAIN WITH REGULAR RELAXATION

More encouraging still, the benefits of the relaxation effect were found to increase with regular practice – the more people practised relaxation methods, the greater their chances of remaining free of arthritis and joint pain with stronger immunity, healthier hormone levels and lower blood pressure.

Benson believes the research is pivotal because it shows how a person's state of mind affects the body on a physical and genetic level. But just how can relaxation have such wide-ranging and powerful effects? Research around the world has described the negative effects of stress on the body. Linked to the release of the stress-hormones adrenalin and cortisol, stress raises the heart rate and blood pressure, weakens immunity and lowers fertility.

RELAXATION HAS VIRTUALLY THE OPPOSITE EFFECT OF STRESS

By contrast, the state of relaxation is linked to higher

levels of feel-good chemicals such as serotonin, dopamine and endorphins. These healing chemicals repair cells and tissue whilst reducing pain and swelling associated with arthritis. Indeed, studies show that relaxation has virtually the opposite effect of stress, lowering heart rate, boosting immunity and enabling the body to heal itself.

Relaxation methods transforming the lives of 1000's in shropshire

So, the answer to a healthy, happy life is to just relax and let your body heal itself. I know it sounds too good to be true, but that's what the science is saying and it's being backed up by 1000's of Shropshire

people who have had their health transformed over the last 3 years by visiting Miruji health spa in Shrewsbury. If you would like to feel better try a one hour treatment, its only £10 this month. Normally £39. If you don't feel the benefits after just one treatment you don't pay a penny. Call 01743 600581 to book a treatment.

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Town offers friendly festive welcome to all



The town of Chirk offers a friendly welcome to all festive visitors

THE town of Chirk offers plenty of fantastic festive fun with many of its businesses getting into the Christmas spirit.

Its many independent traders have plenty of festive bargains on offers while its hotels, pubs and restaurants offer a friendly service to all.

Sitting on the Shropshire/Welsh border and as the gateway to the picturesque Ceiriog Valley, Chirk is a superb place to explore some stunning

Advertising Feature

scenery and interesting landmarks this Christmas.

One of its most famous is Chirk Castle and once again bosses at the castle are getting into the Christmas spirit.

This year the castle's courtyard will be transformed into a medieval feast for the senses, with the smells, sounds, sights and tastes of traditional medieval festivities.

Visitors can take a look around the castle and imagine how Christmas might have been celebrated 700 years

ago. This year people can expect medieval characters in the courtyard, crafts, including candle making, table centres, leather working, and more, medieval food and drink, music and a medieval Christmas trail.

For more information about the medieval events schedule call (01691) 777701.

Another great place to visit if you are in the Chirk area this Christmas time is the nearby Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

The impressive landmark carries the Llangollen Canal and attracts visitors from around the world.

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Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

21
Oswestry & Border Chronicle
Thursday, November 12, 2015



New build house sits in the heart of valley

One of two new build properties in the heart of The Ceiriog Valley, Plot 1 New Houses, Dolywern, is for sale through Town & Country at £279,950.

The property which has been built by local reputable developers, boasts spacious accommodation comprising an entrance hallway with a staircase off, a kitchen/breakfast room fitted with a range of cream base and wall

units, a good sized living room with a square bay window and a separate dining room with French doors out to a patio.

There is an utility, four bedrooms, master en suite, and a family bathroom fitted with a white suite and complimentary tiling to purchasers' own choice, subject to build stage, and a cloakroom. Each property has its own detached single garage with driveway

providing parking for several cars and good sized rear gardens. The front gardens will be landscaped with a shared entrance opening out onto both properties. The generous rear gardens back onto open fields having a patio off the rear with lawned gardens beyond. For further information contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 or visit www.townand-countryoswestry.co.uk



Stunning family property sits on the edge of village

The Chase at Trefonen near Oswestry is a spacious modern family home on the edge of the village. Built in 1999 by the current owner, it is a timber framed property offering 4,136 sq ft of accommodation with an outlook over the stream to the adjoining fields. It is on the market with a guide price of £750,000.

For further information contact Balfours on 01743 353511 or visit www.balfours.co.uk



Home is in walking distance of the town centre's facilities

An attractive Victorian mid terraced house, 19 Lloyd Street in Oswestry is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £100,000. The property is located within walking distance of the town's shopping centre. The home benefits from gas fired central heating and PVC double glazing. Accommodation comprises an entrance hall, a sitting room, a living room and a kitchen. There are also two bedrooms and a bathroom and the property benefits from front and rear gardens. For more information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



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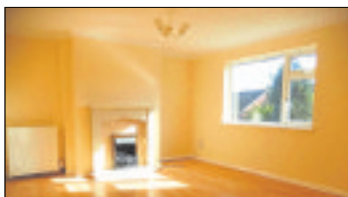
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House in town has front and rear gardens

16 Maes Derwen is a three bedroom semi-detached modern house located in Llanfair Caereinion. It is for sale for £135,000 through Halls. Accommodation includes storm porch, entrance hall, good sized sitting room, fitted kitchen/breakfast room, first floor landing, three bedrooms and bathroom.

Outside the property benefits from off street parking and garden to both front and rear, with the main garden to the rear comprising raised terrace with paved patio, lawn and borders, all neatly enclosed making it a safe environment for children and pets. Contact Halls on 01938 55552 for more details.



Country property has been fully renovated

A country property having been fully renovated, Ash Tree Cottage, Gwyn-y-Brenin, Oswestry, is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with offers over £350,000. There is no chain and the property is set in a large garden plot only a short driving distance from Oswestry. The accommodation comprises a reception hall, a breakfast kitchen, a bathroom, dining room and living room. On the first floor is an ensuite bedroom and two further bedrooms. The property has a south facing aspect overlooking a large garden of about 0.7 acres, laid principally to lawn. For more information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



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JJD854

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- 2 Good Sized Reception Rooms
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ST. MARTINS

- Detached House
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- D/G & Secondary D/G
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- Good Sized Garden
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GOBOWEN

- Attractive Semi-Detached Bungalow
- Within Walking Distance Of Village Amenities
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- Kitchen
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- Study
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JJD843

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- Three Berth Stable And Store
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JJD878

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- Cloakroom
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- En-Suite And Bathroom
- Parking
- Rear Garden And Patio
- Walking Distance Of Village Amenities
- EPC Band - C

JJD882

OFFERS ON £134,500

OSWESTRY

- Victorian Terraced House
- Walking Distance Of Town Centre
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- Kitchen
- Sitting Room
- Living Room
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
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- Kitchen
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- Bathroom
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GUIDE PRICE £124,950

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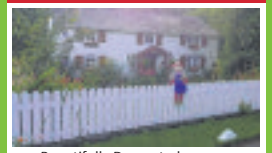
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Property in village has well proportioned rooms

14 Dol Las is a four-bedroom, two storey property located in a quiet cul-de-sac in the heart of the popular village of Abermule. It is for sale through Halls with offers in the region of £195,000. The internal accommodation is well laid out and offers well-proportioned rooms providing for entrance hall with ground floor WC, generous sized lounge, well fitted kitchen, dining room with patio doors to rear gardens, useful study/hobby room. From the entrance hall, a staircase leads to the first floor landing with doors off to master bedroom with en-suite shower room, three further bedrooms and bathroom. Contact Halls on 01938 555552 for details.



Extended detached house available in popular village

An extended detached house, 18 Peverel Drive in Whittington is on the market with Morris Marshall & Poole for £255,000.

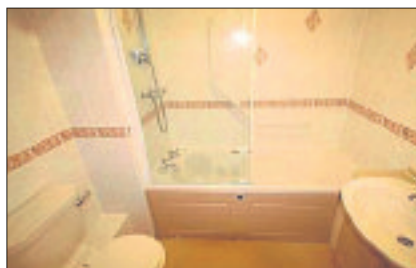
The property has four bedrooms, two of which are en-suite. Other accommodation includes lounge, dining room, living kitchen, utility area, cloakroom and office/snug. The property benefits from gas-fired central heating and double glazing. There are good sized gardens to side and rear and there is a large timber built vehicle/fuel store. Contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 for more details.



Home's accommodation is well laid out

23 Parc Yr Onnen in Llanfair Caereinion is on the market through Halls for £165,000

The accommodation is deceptively spacious and well laid out on two floors providing for an entrance hall which leads to a good sized sitting room with double doors opening into the open plan kitchen/dining room, with sliding patio doors leading through to the conservatory. There is a separate small utility and ground floor WC. From the entrance hall a staircase leads to the first floor landing with master bedroom with en-suite shower room, two further bedrooms and a family bathroom. For more details contact Halls on 01938 555552.



Rarely available retirement apartment on market

Rarely available, 59 Abraham Court is a two bedroom retirement apartment within walking distance of Oswestry. It is on the market through Town & Country for £119,000. This apartment is located on the second floor and comprises entrance hall, living room, kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom. Residents must be over the age of 60 years. The house manager can be contacted from various points in each apartment in the case of an emergency. For periods when the house manager is off duty there is a 24 hour emergency Careline system. Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 for details.



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**LOT 1
AUCTION**



Cefn Mawr WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £45,000

- 3 Bedroom Terrace
- Excellent potential for modernisation and improvement
- Double glazed, Gas fired CH
- Front and rear gardens
- EPC to E
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 2
AUCTION**



Trefonen OSWESTRY
Guide Price Over £215,000

- An interesting development opportunity subject to any necessary planning consents being obtained
- Large detached bungalow set in 0.46 acres (0.187 ha)
- Elevated position on edge of Trefonen
- EPC to G
- Contact Oswestry Office

**LOT 3
AUCTION**



Glyn Ceiriog Nr LLANGOLLEN
Guide Price Over £100,000

- Charming Two Bedroom Terraced Cottage
- Many Original Features
- Sash Windows and Exposed Beams
- Large Riverside Gardens
- EPC Rating 'F'
- Contact Chirk Office

**LOT 5
AUCTION**



Ruabon WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £70,000

- Ideal investment property
- Central village location
- 4 bedroom accommodation on 3 floors. Dining room, lounge and kitchen to the ground floor, landing, 2 double beds and bath to the first floor with a further 2 double bedrooms on the second floor
- EPC to E

**LOT 6
AUCTION**



Gobowen OSWESTRY
Guide Price Over £30,000

- Potential Building Plot
- Central Village Location
- Pre-Application Enquiries made
- 205 square metres, measuring 18m x 11m average across the plot
- Contact Oswestry Office

**LOT 7
AUCTION**



Coedpoeth WREXHAM
Guide Price £100,000-£110,000

- End Terraced Property with DG
- Off Road Parking
- Lounge, Dining Kitchen
- Loft Room
- Views Over Open Countryside
- EPC Rating E
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 8
AUCTION**



Argyle Street WREXHAM
Guide Price Over £100,000

- Prominent Retail Premises
- In Heart of The Town
- Spacious Accommodation
- Flexible Terms
- EPC to F
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 9
AUCTION**



Llay WREXHAM
Guide Price £10,000-£20,000

- An interesting development opportunity for the construction of a new three bedroom house
- All services available
- Full Planning permission was granted by Wrexham County Borough under code number LLA P/2011/0071
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 10
AUCTION**



Rhoslanerchrugog WREXHAM
Guide Price £85,000

- Residential / commercial investment opportunity
- Let Retail shop with separate spacious 3 bedroom residential flat above
- Two storey garage/store building to rear
- EPC to D
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 11
AUCTION**



Holyhead Road LLANGOLLEN
Guide Price Over £5,000

- 1.20 ac (0.49 ha) of pasture land & 0.23 ac (0.09 ha) access driveway
- Currently laid to permanent pasture.
- Ideal for agricultural or equine recreational opportunities.
- Access onto council maintained lane.
- Contact Llangollen Office

Oswestry

01691 652367

35 Bailey Street, Oswestry. SY11 1PX
oswestry@bowensonandwatson.co.uk

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Collective Property Auction

Moved from
5th to 19th November 2015

2.00pm

@ the Lion Quays Hotel, Moreton
Oswestry SY11 3EN

**LOT 5
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £95,000 - £105,000

- 2 Bed End Terrace property
- Currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at rent of £415 pcm
- EPC Rating - Band 'D'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 6
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £95,000 - £105,000

- 2 Bedroom Terraced property.
- Currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at rent of £458 pcm
- EPC Rating - Band 'C'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 7
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £95,000 - £105,000

- 2 Bedroom Terraced property.
- Currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at rent of £458 pcm
- EPC Band 'D'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 8
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £100,000 - £110,000

- 3 Bedroom Terraced property.
- Currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at rent of £495 pcm.
- EPC Rating - Band 'D'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 9
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £100,000 - £110,000

- 3 Bedroom Terraced property.
- Currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at rent of £525 pcm.
- EPC Rating - Band 'D'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 10
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £100,000 - £110,000

- 3 Bedroom Terraced property
- Currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at rent of £505 pcm
- EPC Rating - Band 'D'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 11
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £95,000 - £105,000

- 2 Bedroom Terraced Property.
- Offered for sale with Full Vacant Possession.
- EPC Rating - Band 'C'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 12
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £95,000 - £105,000

- 2 Bedroom Terraced property
- Currently let on Assured Shorthold Tenancy at rent of £450 pcm
- EPC Rating - Band 'C'
- Contact Wrexham Office

**LOT 13
AUCTION**



Marchwiel WREXHAM
Guide Price £95,000 - £105,000

- 2 Bedroom End Terraced Property
- Offered for sale with Full Vacant Possession
- EPC Rating - Band 'C'
- Contact Wrexham Office

Welcome to our November Auction. We are delighted to offer another excellent mix of residential and agricultural lots. For more information on any of the lots please call our offices.

The closing date for our December Auction is 29th October. To arrange a free no-obligation market appraisal please contact one of the offices. Our local valuers offer many years of experience and will be happy to offer honest and independent advice on how to achieve the best price possible.



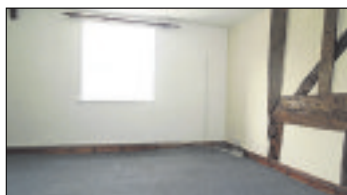
The Auction
Catalogue can be
downloaded from

bowensonandwatson.co.uk/
online-catalogue



Former school is now a stunning home

The Old School in Nesscliffe is a former school dating back to 1753 which now has spacious and flexible accommodation with original features. The property offers potential for small business use, subject to the necessary consents, such as a B&B or shared accommodation, or the large schoolroom could be used as an office/small business. It has previously been used as a B&B, an art gallery and craft centre and a home office. It is for sale through Woodhead Estates at £359,950. For further information contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044.



Superb cottage is in picturesque village

2 Liverpool Cottages at Meifod is on the market through Halls for £95,000. The sale presents a rare opportunity to purchase a superb three bedroomed cottage situated in the picturesque village of Meifod. The property benefits from an abundance of character features including exposed beams and inglenook fireplace. The property is situated within the centre of the village of Meifod. The village has a host of shops, amenities, primary school and public houses whilst the A495 provides a direct link to the larger towns of Oswestry, Shrewsbury and Welshpool. For more information call Halls' Welshpool office on 01938 555552.



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Grimpo, West Felton, Shropshire

An attractive stone family house situated in a rural location with flexible accommodation and a large garden with beautiful views of the Breidden Hills

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Large Garden, Patio, Pond, Cottage Garden

Guide Price £485,000

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P

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29 Upper Chirk Bank **£189,000**

Spacious detached bungalow. 3/4 Bedrooms and modern bathroom. Lounge / Diner with cast iron multi fuel burner. Gas-fired central heating, double glazing. Enclosed rear garden and detached garage. Located in easy reach of A5 Trunk Road. Close to the Llangollen Canal. EPC Rating = 62 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



6 King Street, Oswestry **£77,500**

End terrace town house. Two receptions and fitted kitchen. Two bedrooms and fitted bathroom. Gas fired central heating. UPVC double glazing. Rear yard and store. Cash Buyers Only - ideal investment. EPC Rating = 44 (E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



6 Parc Llwyfen, Llanymynech **£129,950**

Modern three bedroom end terrace house. Lounge, kitchen and family bathroom. Ground floor cloakroom, enclosed rear garden. LPG central heating, double glazing. Affordable home subject to Sec 106 Agreement. Pleasant village location. Constructed to a high specification. EPC Rating = 64 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



17 Maes Y Derwen, Llanrhaeadr YM **£112,500**

Semi-detached village house. Thru' lounge/diner, kitchen/breakfast. Three bedrooms and bathroom. Oil-fired central heating. Sealed unit double glazed timber framed glazing. Gardens to both front and rear. Detached render finished store. EPC Rating = 58 (D) No Chain

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LET
OSWESTRY

Self-Cont G/F Bedsit, FTE, No Pets,
(Over 21s)(EER=34)(£310 dep)

£210 pcm

Self-Cont G/F Bedsit, Elect/H, FTE, No Pets,
(EER=25) (£340 dep).....

£240 pcm

2 Bed Mid-Terrace, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets,
(EER=57) (£400 dep).....

£300 pcm

1 Bed 1st/Floor Flat, Elect/H, FTE, No Pets,
(EER=66) (£350 dep).....

£350 pcm

2 Bed 1st/Floor Flat, Elect/H, FTE, No Pets, (
EER=27) (£460 dep).....

£350 pcm

2 Bed 1st/Floor Flat, Elect/H, FTE, No Pets,
EER=53) (£450 dep).....

£450 pcm

2 Bed Semi-Det, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=44) (£495 dep) £495 pcm

GOBOWEN.

1 Bed Open Plan Flat, Elect/H. FTE, No Pets,
(EER=68) (£350 dep).....

£250 pcm

3 Bed Semi-Det, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets,
(EER=52) (£595 dep)

£495 pcm

3 Bed House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (
EER=79) (£695 dep).....

£575 pcm

MAESBURY

2 Bed Det Cottage, Oil C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=31)(£575 dep)£475pcm

ELLESMEIRE

3 Bed Barn Conversion, Oil C/H, FTE, No Pets,
(EER=21) (£850 dep).....

£750 pcm

Fees: Application Fee: £40. Lease Fee: £132



4 Maesgwasted, Adfa, Newtown **£139,950**

End Terrace House. Utility & WC, Dining Room, Kitchen. Living Room, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom. Double glazed. Oil fired central heating. Off road parking, garage and car port. Energy efficiency rating = 70

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



10 Stewart Road, Oswestry **£139,950**

Mid terrace two bedroom town house. Two reception rooms with open fires. Ground floor shower room. First floor bathroom. Gas-fired central heating. Private enclosed rear courtyard and patio. Retaining many original features. EPC Rating = 45 (E) No Chain

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



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Oswestry Office 01691 679595



The Old Meadows, Naylor Fields, Arddleen **£189,950**

Detached Village Bungalow with Garage. Sitting Room, Kitchen, Conservatory. Three Bedrooms, Newly fitted Bathroom. Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed. Attached Single Garage. Ample Parking to front. Lawn, patio and small orchard. NO CHAIN. Energy efficiency rating = 56 (D)

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

Aberystwyth 01970 625020

Llanidloes 01686 412567

Machynlleth 01654 702472

Newtown 01686 626160

Oswestry 01691 679595

Shrewsbury 01743 247755

Tywyn 01654 710388

Welshpool 01938 554818

Aberdyfi (window display)



Five bedroom property has outstanding views

A detached five bedroomed country property with outstanding views, Bryn Paenod, Llanfechain, is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £400,000. The property is situated in a large garden and has been extensively refurbished by the current owners to a high standard throughout. Accommodation comprises kitchen, drawing room, sun room, lounge, library, study, cloakroom, five bedrooms and two bathrooms. There is double garaging, a good sized garden and the property is in a private position. For more information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



Highly desirable family home in popular village

A highly desirable two storey four bedroomed family home within the popular village of Guilsfield, Oak House is on the market through Halls for £385,000. The accommodation provides for entrance hall with doors off to study, ground floor WC, dining room, main reception room, a well fitted kitchen with Rangemaster range cooker and central island, breakfast area and snug. A central staircase leads up to a galleried landing area with doors off to the master bedroom, with en-suite bathroom, three further double bedrooms and the family shower room. For more information contact Halls on 01938 555552.



Smallholding is in an idyllic rural location

A smallholding in an idyllic rural location, Ty Cerrig at Croesaubach has outstanding views of the Shropshire plain, yet is just three miles from Oswestry. It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson at £475,000. The property comprises a spacious three-bedroomed detached cottage standing in mature gardens, a range of useful outbuildings, stables and field shelters together with about 10.75 acres of excellent pasture land located in a ring fence immediately to the rear of the house. Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



Stunning residence has 12 acres of land

A stunning country residence with 12 acres of land, situated in a private, rural location under five miles from the Shropshire border market town of Oswestry, is on offer with agents Halls for £699,950. Stone House Farm, Selattyn is a period farmhouse with characterful accommodation which has been tastefully renovated to provide a luxury family home, which comes with pasture paddocks and woodland, a manege, stable blocks and outbuildings. Viewing is by appointment with Halls' Oswestry office on 01691 670320.



Ballet of birds bringing drama to November skies

ABOUT a month ago I was suddenly surprised by a group of about 500 animals.

You may not think it would be very easy to 'suddenly' come across such a large congregation without noticing but that is indeed what happened.

I was wandering down to my local mere with the pooch in tow and a hail of fluttering wings, almost singing with reverberations shot over my head.

They were of course starlings and until this year I have never seen them gather until late October but yet here they were beginning their murmuration a little earlier than expected. Now, in early November, the smaller flocks are building into a colossus, a real ballet of birds in the skies above such spots as they choose to roost.

It's fascinating to watch as these dramatic, rippling shapes sweep and bulge across the evening firmament and if you know of a spot near you, get out there and experience it now whilst you still have the chance.

They tend to gather a few minutes before dusk and at time of writing it's about quarter past four in the afternoon.

Their movements en masse have long been put down to an attempt to fool larger predators such as falcons and owls but I'm not so sure. As I watched last night, two sparrowhawks darted from a nearby stand of trees and made short work of separating a starling before one caught the bird with an aerobatic move not 15 feet from where I stood (see my artist's Facebook feed for the clip).

It seemed to me very odd to display one's

ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



self in such an ostentatious way when the very idea is that you're hoping to put predators off – not attract them!

An alternative is that they might be trying to keep warm. There's a thermal benefit to roosting as one of a big flock, instead of on your own or in a small flock. And starlings don't do this during the spring, summer or early autumn, they only do it to see them through the worst of the winter.

At some invisible cue, about 80 per cent of the murmuration will suddenly dive down as if a tornado is touching land for the first time and they will settle in the reeds and bunch up together for the night. The rest then continue to circle for a while before joining them.

The interesting thing is that there are always many latecomers and they seem perfectly happy not to join the murmuration but come in the dribs and drabs and fall in with the rest on their perches.

If you watch these groups of three or four (or individuals) you will see them fly towards the area (in my case, the mere) and then on hearing their comrades at one particular site (they change almost daily) they turn instantly and make a bee line for the roost.

To me it almost seems like the birds are more concerned about taking the plunge into the reeds for the first time and mak-



Ben's photograph of starlings over a mere in north Shropshire

ing sure they get the right roosting spot, rather than the inevitability that the odd raptor will take a pop at them every so often. When we look at the murmuration individually, every bird copies its direction only from its closest six or seven neighbours, no matter how closely packed they are. The birds seek out the bounda-

ries between black and white – heading for the edges. Over time, they stick together as a flock: not too close together, and not too far apart and they can just about see through the flock. This balances protection with information. Clever, eh?

Come and see Ben and his artwork this Saturday in The Square, Shrewsbury

Progress on pine marten scheme is continuing

FINDING animal mess in the middle of a path isn't usually a cause for excitement.

But for workers trying to re-establish the population of pine martens in Mid Wales, it was a reason to celebrate.

David Bavin, pine marten project officer for the Vincent Wildlife Trust, described the project's work over the past few months as "challenging and tiring".

Staff have captured the mammals in Scotland, transported them to Mid Wales, and released them into the countryside in secret locations.

"We have learnt to embrace the little victories," he admitted.

"One highlight was finding the first suspected scat from one of our recently released martens.

"Stereotypically for pine martens, it was in the middle of the path.

"It passed our 'sniff test' and now we are awaiting the results from the lab with anticipation."

All the pine martens known to be in Mid Wales are given codes but are better known among the workers by their nicknames.

Mr Bavin said: "We enjoyed another exciting moment when we caught a glimpse of PM02, who is also known as Penny. She was crossing the road in front of our car one evening.

"Most recently we also fulfilled our mission in finding PM01 after a long search. He is known as Houdini and really did live up to his name."

The animals are placed in soft release pens to get them used to their new surroundings before being released.

The pens, which have been designed and built by Chester Zoo, have recently been moved to a new location, which meant a lot of work for the Vincent Wildlife Trust team in flat-packing them on to the back of a truck, moving, re-assembling and then 'furnishing' the pens with logs, trees, moss and other marten-friendly home comforts.

Mr Bavin said: "One of the most enjoyable parts of working as part of the Welsh contingent is that every day we feed whichever animals are in the release pens that week and watch the footage of the martens' behaviour the night before.

"It is a great way to show the animals' personality as each individual has its own habits and own preferences for what food it eats first, although the honey we hide in logs has been met with universal approval."



Entertainment unleashed

nativemonster.com

The new entertainment website for the West Midlands

NATIVE MONSTER
Entertainment Unleashed



Cinema listings

HE NAMED ME MALALA (PG)



Fly on the wall – 9/10
Davis Guggenheim's inspirational documentary is a glowing tribute to 18-year-old Pakistani activist and Nobel Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai, who famously survived an assassination attempt by Taliban gunmen. Many images stir the soul, not least Jason Carpenter's gorgeous animated sequences which bookmark this affectionate biography.

BURNT (15)



Under-done – 5/10
At his peak, Adam Jones (Bradley Cooper) was a rock star of the culinary scene but threw it all away. He returns to London where he promises to turn around a failing restaurant but demons of the past return to haunt him. Burnt has all of the ingredients of a tasty yarn, but the finished dish is simplistic and bland, lacking any surprising flavours.

SPECTRE (15)



Mixed reviews – 6/10
A cryptic message reveals ghosts from Bond's past and 007 (Daniel Craig) follows a chain of evidence that leads to Dr Madeleine Swann (Lea Seydoux), daughter of fugitive Mr White (Jesper Christensen). Bond criss-crosses the globe in his Aston Martin DB10 and infiltrates a menacing organisation named SPECTRE, fronted by the enigmatic Franz Oberhauser (Christoph Waltz).

PAPER PLANES (U)



Ozigami – 5/10
Twelve-year-old Dylan lives in the Australian outback with his father Jack who has given up on life following the death of his wife. Dylan has a natural flair for making paper aeroplanes and wins a place in the Australian team and heads to Japan for a competition where he befriends Japanese competitor Kimi. Paper Planes should have the target pre-teen audience cheering in the aisles.

Handsome romance

Review by Damon Smith

YOUNG hearts run free on opposite sides of the Atlantic in John Crowley's handsome romance, adapted for the screen by Nick Hornby from Colm Toibin's novel.

Set in the early 1950s, Brooklyn harks back to a bygone era of restrictive social mores and is anchored by a tour-de-force performance from Saoirse Ronan as an innocent abroad, whose journey from County Wexford to New York coincides with her awkward transition to womanhood.
The 21-year-old Irish-American actress doesn't hit a false emotional note, contrasting the naivete of her heroine's early days away from home with the self-assurance of an immigrant, who finally realises that she belongs.
Sweeping production and costume design evoke the era with aplomb, accentuated by Michael Brook's gorgeous orchestral score.
Equally appealing are Emory Cohen and Domhnall Gleeson as rival suitors.
Both actors kindle smouldering on-screen

chemistry with Ronan, so we're undecided, like her, which of them she should choose as her sanctuary.
Ellis Lacey (Ronan) is a shrinking violet in Enniscorthy.
She lives with her mother (Jane Brennan) and older sister Rose (Fiona Glasco), and earns a meagre crust – and withering rebukes – at the local shop run by the imperious Miss Kelly (Brid Brennan).



Saoirse Ronan's leading performance in Brooklyn is winning critics' plaudits

Thanks to Rose, Ellis secures a one-way ticket to a brighter future in New York.
Holy man Father Flood (Jim Broadbent) places Ellis at a boarding house for single girls run by Mrs Kehoe (Julie Walters), who clucks over the lodgers including Patty (Emily Bett Rickards), Diana (Eve Macklin), Miss McAdam (Mary O'Driscoll) and Sheila (Nora-Jane Noone).
Ellis' homesickness gradually fades and

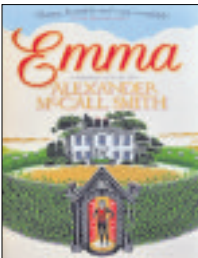
she excels as a salesgirl at a department store under stylish floor manager Miss Fortini (Jessica Pare).
She also sparks a tender romance with a handsome plumber called Tony (Cohen).
Painfully innocent to courtship rituals, Ellis turns to the other girls at the boarding house and they advise her to carefully choose her bathing costume for an impending trip to Coney Island beach.

"It's the most Tony will have seen of you and you don't want to put him off!" they cackle. The lovebirds marry in secret, but when Ellis returns home to Enniscorthy, local boy Jim Farrell (Gleeson) unexpectedly turns her head.
Brooklyn is a classic, old-fashioned love triangle, which combines elegant storytelling, strong performances and swoonsome visuals.

Book reviews

EMMA

By Alexander McCall Smith
Published by Borough Press
Emma Woodhouse is a bright, privileged young woman who has just graduated with a degree in design. She has returned to her well-heeled father's house in Norfolk with no real incentive to get a job or make herself useful. So, with time on her hands, but with the best intentions, she pokes her nose into other people's business. Mostly Emma is concerned about match-making among various friends and neighbours, but she has a lot to learn about life,



herself and other people. This is, of course, a modern re-write of the classic Jane Austen novel by one of today's best loved authors. It's delightfully tongue in cheek and thoroughly enjoyable.
By Deborah Knox

THE JACKDAW

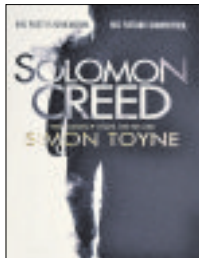
By Luke Delaney
Published by Harper
Written by an ex-Met detective, this is the fourth in the acclaimed DI Sean Corrigan series. Financial sector workers in the City of London have been disappearing, abducted by a man calling himself The Jackdaw. Within a very short space of time their pictures have been seen on the internet, bound to a chair in a barren room, and alongside a masked man. This man has decided that the victims are responsible for the incompetence that led up to the banking crisis, and his broadcasts give the viewer an opportunity to vote on their fate



by clicking an icon, either "like" for guilty, or "dislike" for innocent. The Jackdaw is both judge and executioner. Under huge political pressure that led up to the banking crisis, and his broadcasts give the viewer an opportunity to vote on their fate
By Sally Bunn

SOLOMON CREED

By Simon Toyne
Published by Harper Fiction
Author of the best-selling "Sanctus" trilogy, Toyne has made his mark. His new series introduces us to Solomon Creed, fleeing from the burning wreckage of a plane in the Arizona desert only seconds before it explodes. He runs, acting only on instinct, and has no memory of what happened. Having been rescued and taken to hospital he is reminded of his own name by a policeman who has found a wallet in Creed's pocket. Oddly, though, another name is the one Creed first



thinks of, a name which produces a glowing burn on his skin each time he thinks of it.
James Coronado is the name and Creed has an intense feeling that he must save this man.
By Sally Bunn



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CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



Wildlife expert Iolo Williams will be speaking at Welshpool Town Hall next month



The world's best rally drivers will be coming to the region this weekend

Stars gearing up to keep us entertained

DOZENS of high powered rally cars will be passing through the Oswestry area as three stages of the prestigious Wales Rally GB take place close to the Shropshire border.

The famous rally runs from today (Thursday) until Sunday, with 78 cars competing in the international rally and 88 crews contesting the national event.

The line-up includes the world's top stars including the newly-crowned 2015 World Rally Champion Sébastien Ogier, former F1 star Robert Kubica and Welsh driver Elfyn Evans.

The dramatic high-speed action starts near Llanidloes with a service stop in Newtown.

Tomorrow the action will move north to pass through Llanbryn-mair, Llangadfan, Llangynog, Penybontfawr, Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain and Meifod.

The event isn't just a treat for rallying fans – it will also provide an economic boost with tens of thousands descending on the region.

Councillor Avril York, Powys County Council cabinet member for regeneration, said: "We are thrilled that Wales Rally GB are once again bring stages to our county.

"The area lends itself so well to rallying as we have the forests, mountains and magnificent scenery.

"This prestigious event brings so many benefits to the area and we are delighted the Wales Rally GB is coming to Powys.

"And as the event moves from stage to stage, there will be an opportunity for residents to see the rally go through their community."

Drivers on the A483 between Welshpool and Chirk may find themselves in illustrious company tomorrow evening as the cars head up the trunk road through Shropshire to the RallyFest stage, to be held at Chirk Castle on Saturday.

"RallyFest is the perfect location for fans who are new to this exciting sport, and an

SPECIAL REPORT

Entertainment round-up by Pam Kingsley

excellent-value, family-oriented day out for everyone," said Ben Taylor, managing director of Wales Rally GB.

"Chirk Castle is a stunning backdrop to a fantastic day of epic entertainment, and we have a full day of thrilling action on offer that will be a treat for seasoned motor sport aficionados, curious observers and families looking for a fun day out."

To avoid traffic congestion around Chirk, a one-way system will operate into and out of the castle.

The road leading to the car park will be closed at the A5 turn from 2pm, before the direction of travel is reversed to one-way only for exiting.

It will not be possible to join the car park entrance route after 2pm.

Approach

Drivers are asked to approach only from the A5 two miles north of Chirk town and not through Chirk itself as all minor roads will be closed.

Meanwhile if it is wildlife more than rally cars that grabs your interest Iolo Williams will be talking about his career in conservation and his love of wildlife at a fundraising event for the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust. The renowned conservationist, television presenter and local wildlife hero will be speaking at Welshpool Town Hall on Wednesday, December 2 at 7pm.

Tickets are available from the trust office for £10 each including interval refreshments.

A raffle will also be held and all proceeds from the evening will go towards the Dolfwyn Woods Appeal.

"Iolo is such a popular local figure, who is always happy to lend his support to the trust" said Eley Hart, operations manager for Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust.

To avoid disappointment contact Eley on (01938) 555654 or visit www.montwt.co.uk to book your tickets.



Chirk Castle provides a spectacular location for rallying action

Ghostly goings-on at castle will be investigated by visitors

GHOSTLY figures, strange noises and unpleasant smells are just some of the strange goings-on that have been reported at a Shropshire Castle.

Now a new group, Paranormal Friends, is to investigate whether there is any truth in the legend that Whittington Castle is haunted.

Paranormal Friends will be hosting the public investigation at the castle on February 6.

Sam Morris, co-founder of the group, said: "Weather permitting, we have been given permission to investigate the tower ruins below which it is believed the dungeon was located.

"Noises are frequently reported emanating from here and even local youths have been spooked by this.

"Apparitions have been reported in the adjacent ruins too.

"We can't wait to investigate the castle and give the people of Shropshire the opportunity to join us."

The fabric of the castle has been much changed over the hundreds of years since it was built, one of those changes



being the 16th century Elizabethan dwelling attached to the northern outer bailey gate-house tower.

The tower keep is 12th century, but has been later modified and, Mr Morris said, the outer gatehouse was no doubt the work of Sir Fulk Fitzwarine of the early 13th century.

He said: "It is recorded that in the 1920s a death oc-

curred in the one Gatehouse tower following an accident with a cricket ball and a haunting seems to have resulted.

"The group will use a combination of spiritual and scientific methods of investigation – with no guests being forced to take part if they do not wish to do so."

Methods will include Victorian style séances.

There are still a few places available with tickets costing £25 to include light refreshments.

Tickets are available on the website at www.paranormalfriends.co.uk or through the group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1476808129280196>.

William Peverel built the Norman Motte and Bailey castle after the demolition of the previous stronghold built at the time of King Offa, probably of wood with a stockade of sharp posts.

William Peverel had no male heir so his eldest daughter Mellet inherited the castle. The victor of a tournament for her hand in marriage was Warin de Metz of Lorraine who founded a long line of Fitzwarines. They held the castle until 1420.

During the civil war it was loyal to the Royalists until Oliver Cromwell's Roundheads took it by force in 1643. It is now owned by the local community.

THREE COUNTRIES CHRISTMAS MARKETS

Delight in a fantastic four day break visiting Christmas markets in three different countries. With endless gaily decorated stalls selling toys and gifts, delicious seasonal food and drink, street entertainment and glittering Christmas trees, soak up the sensational atmosphere as we visit markets in Metz, Trier, Luxembourg.

Novotel Metz Hauconcourt****

Located a short drive from Metz centre, this 4* hotel has a restaurant bar and is surrounded by green parkland.

The hotel Services include:

- ✓ All bedrooms have TVs
- ✓ Hotel bar
- ✓ Lift
- ✓ Wi-Fi

Your Tour Cost Includes

Mid Morning start today heading into nearby Metz city centre to visit the second largest markets in France in terms of visitors the markets enjoy both French and German cultures and traditions due to Metz's position on the border. Enjoy traditional food, mulled wine and shop to your heart's content for quirky gifts and souvenirs. Make sure you take the time to enjoy the Christmas lights for which Metz is famous and the smell of roasted chestnuts in the air. We head back to the hotel after free time for dinner. (You may choose to eat at the hotel later)

Full day excursion to the beautiful German town of Trier. Enjoy the romantic Christmas atmosphere in Trier and along the Moselle Valley. Set against the dramatic backdrop of the Cathedral, this market is full of medieval delights and traditional hand-crafted gifts. Return via Luxembourg's multicultural markets which take the best from different countries with traditional food and gifts and a wonderful lighting display. We head back to the hotel after free time for dinner. (Once again you have the option to eat at the hotel later)

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- Return Ferry Crossings Dover - Calais
- All Rooms with Private Facilities
- 3 Nights Bed, Breakfast
- Excursions as Detailed

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4 DAYS 11th - 14th December £185



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Landscape Maintenance Foreman

Crown Facilities Management Limited is a grounds maintenance, estate and property management business operating nationwide from a head office based near Shrewsbury. Our clients include property developers, blue-chip companies, the public sector and top 50 construction companies.

We are looking for an experienced person with a minimum of 3 years as a Foreman doing landscape maintenance. The successful candidate must be used to traveling, be quality and customer focused, and be able to hit daily targets through the efficient management of people and time. The person must also hold

- CSCS card
- Certificate for NPCT Chainsaw
- PA1 and 6 spraying certificate
- a full driving license including towing trailers
- be IT literate
- A SSSTS card would be an advantage.

Hourly rate dependent on experience
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 Closing date for applications
30th November 2015



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Casualty
9pm
Alicia's day gets off to a bad start when she gets caught up in a fight outside the ambulance station, forcing her to treat a patient in the back of a van. Lily's opinion of the junior doctor has not improved in the slightest, but her mentor's discouragement only pushes Alicia to try harder to prove her worth.



The Last Station
11pm
A naive young man is appointed as the private secretary to the ageing Leo Tolstoy in 1910, but finds himself in the middle of a bitter conflict. The writer has embraced strong socialist and pacifist principles and wishes to leave everything to the people - but his wife does not want to give up his legacy.



The Jonathan Ross Show
9.45pm
Footballer Cristiano Ronaldo makes his first ever appearance on the UK TV chat show. The Portuguese star joins the host to discuss Ronaldo, the documentary film exploring his life to date. Plus, model, actress and singer Agyness Deyn takes a seat on the sofa alongside actor David Tennant.



The Restoration Man
7pm
Gareth Williams seeks help from George Clarke as he works to convert a disused church in Pembrokeshire. With a tight budget that forces him to buy supplies from an online auction site, and a huge amount of red tape resulting from the surrounding graveyard, the stress begins to take its toll.



Live Championship Boxing
10pm
Nick Blackwell v Elliott Matthews. Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the bout for the British Middleweight title, which takes place at the City Academy in Bristol. With commentary by Dave Farrar, Andy Clarke and Richie Woodall.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
9.15	Saturday Kitchen Live. Detectors star Mackenzie Crook joins James Martin and chefs Glynn Purnell and Kim Woodward to face his food heaven or hell. Plus, Sue Barrie provides the wine tips.
10.45	The Lord Mayor's Show. Dan Snow, Giles Brandreth and Sonali Shah provide live coverage of the ceremonial parade through London, which marks the arrival of the capital's new Lord Mayor.
12.10	Football Focus. Dan Walker and guests preview the week's international matches, which includes Republic of Ireland v Bosnia-Herzegovina in the Euro 2016 qualifying play-offs.
12.45	Rugby League. England v New Zealand (Kick-off 1.00pm). Mark Chapman presents live coverage of the third and final match of the international series, which takes place at DW Stadium in Wigan.
3.10	Formula 1: The Brazilian Grand Prix - Qualifying. Suzi Perry presents the battle for pole at Interlagos in Sao Paulo, ahead of the 18th and penultimate round of the season (Start-time 4.00pm).
5.20	Children in Need 2015: The Best Bits. Shane Richie presents highlights of last night's fundraiser, including a Star Wars sketch, Call the Midwife does Strictly, and music by Ellie Goulding, Selena Gomez and Jess Glynne.
6.30	BBC News.
6.40	Midlands Today; Weather.
6.50	Strictly Come Dancing. The nine remaining couples take to the dance floor once again, in the hopes of impressing the judges with carefully planned routines they have been practising throughout the week.
8.15	Doctor Who. Video recovered from the wreckage of Le Verrier Space Station details how the Doctor and Clara became entangled in a deadly rescue mission.
9.00	Casualty. A violent altercation at the ambulance station, forces Alicia to treat a patient in the back of a van, and Jacob turns vigilante as he tracks the police officer who shot him.
9.50	The National Lottery Live. Adil Ray joins Gabby Roslin for the all-important draws at Lottery HQ.
10.00	BBC News; Weather.
10.20	MOTD Special: David Beckham's Match for Children. Highlights of UNICEF's "match for children" at Old Trafford, which saw David Beckham captain a Great Britain and Ireland XI versus a Rest of the World team led by Zinedine Zidane; National Lottery Update.
11.00	FILM: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003). A rogue captain and a blacksmith set sail to rescue a governor's daughter from feared supernatural pirates. Swashbuckling fantasy adventure, starring Johnny Depp.
1.10	Weather for the Week Ahead.
1.15	BBC News.

BBC2	
6.15	FILM: Henry VIII and His Six Wives (1972). The Tudor monarch looks back on his reign as he lies on his deathbed, and recalls the six women he made his queen. Historical drama, starring Keith Michell and Donald Pleasence.
8.15	Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix - Practice One. Lee McKenzie presents action from Interlagos, as the teams began preparations for the 18th and penultimate round of the season.
10.05	Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix - Practice Two. Lee McKenzie presents action from Interlagos.
11.55	F1 Rewind - Great Results. Highlights of three classic races from the archives.
12.55	Live Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix - Practice Three. Coverage from Interlagos.
2.05	FILM: The Red Shoes (1948). A budding prima ballerina's love for a composer arouses the wrath of her possessive mentor. Powell and Pressburger's drama, starring Anton Walbrook and Moira Shearer.
4.15	Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. Terry Wogan and Mason McQueen take a punt on the River Cherwell. (R)
4.45	Escape to the Country. Searching for a property in Norfolk. (R)
5.30	Flog It! From Lissanoure Castle in Co Antrim. (R)
6.30	The Great Pottery Throw Down. In Stoke-on-Trent, nine potters have to make decorative hand basins, as well as add a surface design to plain tiles for judges Kate Malone and Keith Brymer Jones. (R)
7.30	Great Continental Railway Journeys. Michael Portillo embarks on a Greek odyssey from the Athens port of Piraeus, north to the city of Thessaloniki, exploring the Acropolis and sampling moussaka and baklava. (R)
8.30	Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring is determined that all his men should be well-shod and have battle-worthy feet, so he starts a regimen involving lengthy route marches. (R)
9.00	QI XL. Stephen Fry invites David Mitchell, Sue Perkins and Sami Shah to join regular panellist Alan Davies as he meanders about some places that start with the letter M.
9.45	David Gilmour: Wider Horizons. A portrait of the former Pink Floyd guitarist, offering an insight into his personal and professional life as he returns to his solo career following a nine-year break.
11.00	FILM: The Last Station (2009). The private secretary to the ageing Tolstoy is caught up in the conflict over who owns the writer's legacy. Period drama, with James McAvoy, Christopher Plummer and Helen Mirren.
12.45	FILM: Sergeant Rutledge (1960). A cavalry officer defends a black soldier accused of a double murder. John Ford's Western courtroom drama, set in 19th-century Arizona, starring Woody Strode and Jeffrey Hunter.
2.30	This Is BBC2. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC2.

ITV	
6.00	CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. 6.10 Bottom Knockers Street. 6.25 Bottom Knockers Street. 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. 6.50 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story. 7.05 Oddbods. 7.10 Sooty. 7.25 Super 4. 7.40 Adventure Time. 8.00 Marvel Avengers Assemble. 8.30 Thunderbirds Are Go. 9.00 Jessie.
9.25	Murder, She Wrote. Jessica reopens an old murder case. (R)
10.20	Countrywise. Reports from Cumbria, the Lake District and the White Cliffs of Dover. (R)
10.50	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.55	The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show stateside. (R)
11.50	Downton Abbey. Edith must choose whether to reveal the truth about her past. Last in the series. (R)
1.25	Judge Rinder. Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R)
2.20	All Star Family Fortunes. Game show, hosted by Vernon Kay. (R)
3.05	Doc Martin. Bert opens a restaurant. (R)
4.05	FILM: Scooby-Doo (2002). Live-action comedy adventure, starring Sarah Michelle Gellar.
5.45	ITV News Central; Weather.
6.00	ITV News and Weather.
6.15	Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show, asking contestants Anwen Davies, Jamie Walker and Leah Clements to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues.
7.00	The Chase: Celebrity Special. Dr Christian Jessen, JB Gill, Helen Lederer and Stephen Hendry join forces to take on the Chaser and secure a cash prize for charity. Presented by Bradley Walsh.
8.00	The X Factor. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present as the remaining contestants face their third live show, ahead of another tense sing-off tomorrow, which will see another act eliminated.
9.45	The Jonathan Ross Show. Real Madrid footballer Cristiano Ronaldo, actress, model and singer Agyness Deyn and former Doctor Who star David Tennant join Jonathan in the studio.
10.50	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
11.10	Euro 2016 Play-Off Highlights. Richard Henwood presents action from the first-leg matches, including Bosnia-Herzegovina v Republic of Ireland at Bilino Polje Stadium.
11.55	River Monsters. Jeremy Wade visits tourist hot spots in America to investigate a creature thought to be responsible for a number of deaths, and risks using himself as bait to catch it. (R)
12.20	Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00	Show Me the Telly. Chris Tarrant is joined by Ricky Tomlinson and Jane McDonald to try to outwit three people hoping to win £3,000. (R)
3.50	ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4	
6.15	How I Met Your Mother. (R)
6.40	How I Met Your Mother. (R)
7.05	How I Met Your Mother. (R)
7.30	River Rat Race Stockton.
7.55	Everybody Loves Raymond. Marie thinks she has lost her touch in the kitchen. (R)
8.30	Everybody Loves Raymond. Amy is accused of talking too much. (R)
9.00	The Morning Line. Nick Luck and AP McCoy preview day two of the Cheltenham Open meeting.
10.00	Frasier. The brothers suspect Martin may have had an affair. (R)
10.30	Frasier. Daphne helps Frasier decide whether to advertise a restaurant. (R)
11.00	The Big Bang Theory.
11.30	The Big Bang Theory.
12.00	The Big Bang Theory. Howard and Bernadette run into trouble at the airport.
12.30	The Simpsons. A columnist writes stories about Grampa. (R)
1.00	The Simpsons. Romance blossoms between Krusty and his new co-star. (R)
1.30	Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Cheltenham and Wetherby.
4.00	Come Dine with Me. Claire Wier hosts the first party in Worcestershire. (R)
4.25	Come Dine with Me. Pippa Langhorne throws the second party in Worcestershire. (R)
5.00	Come Dine with Me. Tim Lawson hosts the third dinner party in Worcestershire. (R)
5.30	Come Dine with Me. Teresa Cox hosts the fourth dinner party from Worcestershire. (R)
6.05	Come Dine with Me. Chris Sheppard hosts the final dinner party in Worcestershire, impressing his guests with his home-made sweet chilli sauce and potato towers before the winner is announced. (R)
6.30	Channel 4 News.
7.00	The Restoration Man. An inexperienced developer works to convert a disused Victorian church in Llanreithan, Pembrokeshire, and a tight budget forces him to buy supplies from an online auction site. (R)
8.00	Grand Designs: House of the Year. Kevin McCloud explores more inspiring homes in the running for the Riba House of the Year Award, including a modernist property built over a river in Belfast, and a hidden house. (R)
9.00	FILM: The Inbetweeners 2 (2014). Premiere. The awkward teenagers find university does not live up to their expectations, and go to Australia in search of adventure. Comedy sequel, with Simon Bird and James Buckley.
10.55	FILM: American Reunion (2012). Old friends attending a high-school reunion make disastrous attempts to relieve their teens. Comedy sequel to the American Pie movies, with Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan.
1.05	Fargo. (R)
2.00	Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R)
2.55	Hollyoaks. (R)
5.05	Deal or No Deal: Double Trouble: Siblings Special. (R)
5.50	Food Unwrapped. (R)

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake! Peppa Pig. 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas. 6.20 Bob the Builder. 6.30 Ticky Toc. 6.40 Milkshake! Monkey. 6.45 Make Way for Noddy. 7.00 Paw Patrol. 7.15 Little Princess. 7.35 Pip Ahoy! 7.50 Blaze and the Monster Machines. 8.10 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. 8.30 Wanda and the Alien. 8.45 Toby's Travelling Circus.
9.00	The Saturday Show. Topical show looking at the week's headlines.
11.00	FILM: Defending Santa (2013). Festive drama, starring Dean Cain.
12.50	FILM: Trading Christmas (2011). Romantic comedy, starring Faith Ford and Gil Bellows.
2.35	FILM: Farewell Mr Kringle (2010). Christmas drama, with Christine Taylor.
4.20	FILM: Dear Santa (2011). Romantic comedy, starring Amy Acker and David Haydn-Jones.
6.05	5 News Weekend.
6.10	FILM: Kelly's Heroes (1970). American soldiers go behind enemy lines in a bid to get their hands on a fortune in Nazi gold. Second World War adventure, with Clint Eastwood, Telly Savalas and Donald Sutherland. Edited for language.
9.00	Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, including Gillingham v Bury and Rochdale v Wigan Athletic in League One.
10.00	Live Championship Boxing. Nick Blackwell v Elliott Matthews. Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the bout for the British Middleweight title, which takes place at the City Academy in Bristol.
12.00	Ben Fogle: New Lives in the UK. Ben Fogle meets people who have escaped the rat race for a more rewarding life elsewhere in the UK, beginning with a London family who moved to rural Devon. (R)
12.55	The Gadget Show. Jon looks at the world of 3D printing, Ortis struggles through a gore-filled maze of zombies, and Jason delves in the world of future gaming at Abertay University in Dundee. (R)
1.50	SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10	Shark Attack: Feeding Frenzy. The story of a series of unusually aggressive shark attacks along Florida's mid-Atlantic coast in 2012, which led the experts to draw some surprising conclusions. (R)
4.00	Big, Bigger, Biggest: The Tallest Towers. The architect of the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, which stand at 1,483ft, offers an insight into how they were built and reveals the challenges of the job. (R)
4.50	Make It Big. Keiron hits a snag while confirming the acts. (R)
5.15	Make It Big. The day of the event arrives. (R)
5.45	Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.50	Angels of Jarm. (R)



Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix

3.20pm
Suzi Perry presents live coverage of the race from Interlagos in Sao Paulo, where the 18th and penultimate round of the season takes place (Start-time 4.00pm). This circuit is one of the few at which Lewis Hamilton has yet to record a victory.



Earth's Wildest Waters: The Big Fish

8pm
Ben Fogle takes the three finalists to Zambia for the last challenge. The contestants have to fish on the river Zambezi, both on the banks and from dugout canoes - but they will have competition for a catch from the local wildlife. Last in the series.



Jekyll and Hyde

7pm
Maggie has developed Sepsis, and Robert and his friends work tirelessly to find a cure. Garson makes an unexpected discovery about the Jekyll family's curse that could hold the key to saving her life. Dance sets his trap, making Robert a tempting offer in return for his help.



Homeland

9pm
Saul decides to order a sweep at the station. Meanwhile, a beleaguered Carrie looks to During for some much-needed support. Thriller following a team of CIA agents battling terrorists and problems in their personal lives. Claire Danes, Mandy Patinkin, Sebastian Koch and Rupert Friend star.



Impractical Jokers US

8pm
The guys have to teach the world's most uncoordinated karate class and pose as reporters. They also head out into the street with a massage chair to offer free neck and head rubs. This episode's loser is challenged to steal a stranger's underwear from a laundry basket and wear them on his head.

BBC1

- 6.00** **Breakfast.**
- 8.20** **MOTD Special: David Beckham's Match for Children.** Highlights of UNICEF's "match for children" at Old Trafford. (R)
- 9.00** **The Andrew Marr Show.**
- 10.00** **Sunday Morning Live.** Sian Williams presents topical debate covering religious, moral and ethical issues, with guest panellists and contributions from viewers.
- 11.00** **Homes Under the Hammer.** Properties in Lincolnshire, Kent and Cardiff. (R)
- 12.00** **Bargain Hunt.** From Wetherby. (R)
- 1.00** **BBC News: Weather.**
- 1.15** **Escape to the Country.** A returning expat couple seek a rural property in West Sussex. (R)
- 1.45** **Songs of Praise.** How cooking and singing can make connections between religions.
- 2.20** **The Hunt.** Predators in the arctic. (R)
- 3.20** **Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix.** Suzi Perry presents live coverage of the race from Interlagos in Sao Paulo, where the 18th and penultimate round of the season takes place (Start-time 4.00pm).
- 6.00** **BBC News.**
- 6.10** **Midlands Today: Weather.**
- 6.20** **Countryfile.** Ellie Harrison reports on new farming developments in Frome, Somerset and samples some of the local produce. Plus, a look back at some memorable moments from past series. Including Weather For The Week Ahead.
- 7.20** **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present last night's results, before the two lowest scoring couples compete in a dance-off. Plus, music from Brandon Flowers from the Killers.
- 8.00** **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents the show from Walmer castle, Kent, where finds include a rare pottery piglet, a revolving table with secret compartments, and a British PoW's diary.
- 9.00** **The Hunt.** The challenges predators face finding and catching prey in a forest, featuring footage of tigers, pine martens, sparrowhawks, eagles and chimpanzees.
- 10.00** **BBC News.**
- 10.20** **Midlands Today: Weather.**
- 10.30** **Mrs Brown's Boys.** Agnes tries to persuade the health visitor Grandad is in need of respite care - so she can go on holiday - and receives ominous news from beyond the grave from her late husband. (R)
- 11.00** **Room 101 - Extra Storage.** Frank Skinner invites comedienne Sue Perkins, Strictly Come Dancing judge Bruno Tonioli and TV host Steve Jones to discuss their pet hates. Last in the series. (R)
- 11.40** **The Apprentice.** The candidates travel to a south London builder's yard, where Lord Sugar challenges them to set up and run a handyman business with the winning team generating the most money. (R)
- 12.40** **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 12.45** **BBC News.**

BBC2

- 6.15** **The A to Z of TV Gardening.** (R)
- 7.00** **The Big Allotment Challenge.** Five contestants battle it out for the three places in the final. (R)
- 8.00** **Countryfile.** The recovery of a crashed Spitfire in Cambridgeshire's Great Fen. (R)
- 9.00** **An Island Parish: Falklands.** (R)
- 9.30** **Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** Highlights of the series.
- 11.00** **Simply Nigella.** (R)
- 11.30** **My Life on a Plate.** (R)
- 12.15** **My Life on a Plate.** With former athlete Colin Jackson. (R)
- 1.00** **Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip.** Terry Wogan and Mason McQueen explore the Roman city of Bath. (R)
- 1.30** **Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip.** Terry Wogan and Mason McQueen visit Harrogate. (R)
- 2.00** **Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals.** Sue Barker presents coverage from day one at the O2 in London.
- 5.00** **Demolition: The Wrecking Crew.** A team demolishes an office block in the centre of Doncaster. (R)
- 6.00** **Robert Peston Goes Shopping.** The history of the retail trade in Britain since the end of the Second World War, beginning by examining how shopping evolved from a chore into a popular pastime. (R)
- 7.00** **Caribbean with Simon Reeve.** Simon visits Nicaragua and Honduras on the last leg of his journey, before finishing by spending time with young Jamaicans who have rejected gang life. Last in the series. (R)
- 8.00** **Earth's Wildest Waters: The Big Fish.** Ben Fogle takes the three finalists to Zambia for the last challenge, where they must fish on the river Zambezi, competing for a catch with the local wildlife. Last in the series.
- 9.00** **The Secret History of the British Garden.** New series. Monty Don examines how British gardens have changed over time. The first episode focuses on the 17th century, with a visit to the only surviving garden from the 1600s.
- 10.00** **Family Guy.** Peter prepares for a fight with Liam Neeson, while Lois becomes a class helper and pays more attention to the other children than she does to Stewie.
- 10.25** **Family Guy.** Peter, Quagmire and Joe take a trip to Canada on a private jet, which crashes into the wilderness. Stranded in the wilderness for two months, Peter becomes feral.
- 10.45** **Family Guy.** Stewie's beloved teddy bear Rupert gets recalled, and he will stop at nothing to get him back. Peter gets jealous when Lois takes his place at a bowling tournament.
- 11.05** **FILM: Cosmopolis (2012).** A billionaire driving across Manhattan has a series of strange encounters as he faces financial ruin. David Cronenberg's drama, with Robert Pattinson and Juliette Binoche.
- 12.50** **Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R)
- 1.45** **Sign Zone: Holby City.** (R)
- 2.45** **This Is BBC2.**

ITV

- 6.00** **CITV: Bottom Knockers Street.**
- 6.10** **Bottom Knockers Street.**
- 6.25** **Bottom Knockers Street.**
- 6.35** **Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.**
- 6.50** **Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures.**
- 7.00** **Signed Stories: Share a Story.**
- 7.05** **Oddbods.**
- 7.10** **Sooty.**
- 7.25** **Super 4.**
- 7.40** **Matt Hatter Chronicles.**
- 8.00** **Marvel Avengers Assemble.**
- 8.30** **Fish Hooks.**
- 9.00** **Horrible Science.**
- 9.25** **Murder, She Wrote.** Guest starring Patrick McGoochan. (R)
- 10.20** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 11.25** **ITV News and Weather: Weather.**
- 11.35** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 12.35** **The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** The host takes his successful talk show stateside.
- 1.30** **Killer Monsters.** A fish is suspected of killing a honeymooning bride in Colombia. (R)
- 2.00** **Catchphrase.** Guessing game, hosted by Stephen Mulhern. (R)
- 2.45** **The X Factor.** The remaining contestants face their third live show. (R)
- 4.30** **The Nation's Favourite Beatles Number One.** Celebrating the songs of one of the most successful bands in chart history. (R)
- 6.30** **ITV News Central: Weather.**
- 6.45** **ITV News and Weather.**
- 7.00** **Jekyll and Hyde.** Robert tries to find a cure for Maggie's condition, which leads Garson to make a discovery about the Jekyll curse. Dance makes Robert a tempting offer in return for his help.
- 8.00** **The X Factor.** Caroline Flack and Olly Murs reveal the results of last night's live show, before the two lowest scoring contestants compete in a sing-off to decide who gets eliminated.
- 9.00** **I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!** New series. Ant and Dec follow another batch of famous faces as they are sent to the Australian jungle - and this time the gruelling trials get started as soon as they arrive.
- 10.50** **ITV News and Weather: Weather.**
- 11.10** **Off Their Rockers.** Mo embraces modern fashion, Tony reveals a saucy secret and Royston shares his strange inventions, as the irreverent hidden-camera show continues. (R)
- 11.40** **The Chase.** Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R)
- 12.35** **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
- 3.00** **Motorsport UK.** Action from Silverstone.
- 3.50** **ITV Nightscreen.**
- 5.05** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)

Channel 4

- 6.15** **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Ray rejects Debra's advances. (R)
- 6.40** **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Robert discovers that Pat smokes. (R)
- 7.05** **Chasing Perfection.** Part one of two. The factors that produce a champion athlete.
- 8.00** **Frasier.** Bulldog quits his job. (R)
- 8.30** **Frasier.** A doctor's death reminds Frasier of his own mortality. (R)
- 9.00** **Frasier.** Frederick announces he is unable to visit at Christmas. (R)
- 9.30** **Sunday Brunch.** The Hairy Bikers discuss their new book.
- 12.30** **Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Cheltenham.
- 3.00** **The Simpsons.** Bart creates a range of novelty T-shirts. (R)
- 3.30** **FILM: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010).** Fantasy adventure, with Georgie Henley and Skandar Keynes.
- 5.40** **Channel 4 News.**
- 6.00** **Small Animal Hospital.** One-off episode in which John Barrowman reports on a black Labrador who collapsed suddenly, a cocker spaniel with a potentially fatal disease, and a terrier with cancer of the jaw.
- 7.00** **Restoring Britain's Landmarks.** The restoration of Grade I listed masterpiece St Edward's Presbytery begins, while John Evetts calls upon craftspeople to ensure Belmont House is ready for its first paying guests. (R)
- 8.00** **Million Pound Mega Yachts.** Documentary about the Monaco Yacht Show, in which over 100 of the largest yachts on the water are up for sale, with billionaire buyers competing to own the most extravagant vessels.
- 9.00** **Homeland.** 1127 95331s a sweep at the station, and Carrie looks to During for support. Thriller following a team of CIA agents, starring Claire Danes and Mandy Patinkin.
- 10.05** **Gogglebox.** Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline Ahern. (R)
- 11.10** **FILM: Man on a Ledge (2012).** An escaped convict threatens to jump from a skyscraper, while his brother carries out a plan of his own in the ensuing chaos. Thriller, starring Sam Worthington and Jamie Bell.
- 1.10** **Grand Designs Australia.** A couple builds their dream home on the coast of New South Wales.
- 2.05** **Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners.** A Guildford upholsterer living among years of clutter. (R)
- 3.00** **Come Dine with Me.** Vanessa Boukharouba hosts the first dinner party in north-east Kent. (R)
- 3.30** **Come Dine with Me.** The second dinner party from north-east Kent is hosted by John O'Connor. (R)
- 4.00** **Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 4.30** **Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 4.55** **Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites.** (R)
- 5.05** **Location, Location, Location.** Two couples look for properties in Buckinghamshire. (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00** **Milkshake!** Peppa Pig
- 6.05** **Bananas in Pyjamas.**
- 6.20** **Angelina Ballerina.**
- 6.30** **Bob the Builder.**
- 6.45** **Ticky Toc.**
- 6.55** **Zack and Quack.**
- 7.05** **Roobarb and Custard Too.**
- 7.15** **Make Way for Noddy.**
- 7.25** **Paw Patrol.**
- 7.40** **Little Princess.**
- 7.55** **Pip Ahoy!**
- 8.05** **Blaze and the Monster Machines.**
- 8.35** **Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.**
- 8.50** **Wanda and the Alien.**
- 9.00** **Toby's Travelling Circus.**
- 9.15** **Jelly Jamm.**
- 9.30** **LazyTown.**
- 10.00** **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** The Turtles train in the woods in a ninja ritual.
- 10.35** **Football League Tonight.** Highlights and all the goals from League One and League Two. (R)
- 11.35** **Police Interceptors.** Kev and Steve go on the hunt for suspected heroin dealers. (R)
- 12.35** **FILM: My Santa (2013).** Drama, starring Samaira Armstrong.
- 2.15** **FILM: A Fairytale Christmas (2013).** Romantic drama, starring C Thomas Howell and Haylie Duff.
- 4.00** **FILM: The Christmas Secret (2014).** Drama, starring Bethany Joy Lenz.
- 5.40** **FILM: Christmas with the Kranks (2004).** Festive comedy, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Tim Allen.
- 7.30** **5 News Weekend.**
- 7.35** **Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops.** Comedy clip show featuring pranks gone wrong, unwise acts and failed attempts of misplaced ambition.
- 8.00** **Impractical Jokers US.** The guys teach a karate class, pose as newspaper reporters, steal from people's shopping baskets and take a massage chair into the street to offer free neck and head rubs.
- 8.30** **Impractical Jokers US.** The guys steal food from customers' plates in a restaurant and try to teach languages they cannot speak.
- 9.00** **FILM: Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters (2013).** The fairytale brother and sister grow up to battle a powerful sorceress who is stealing children for an arcane ritual. Fantasy adventure, with Gemma Arterton and Jeremy Renner.
- 10.45** **FILM: Killer Elite (2011).** A former secret agent takes on one last mission to save his mentor, but assassins are sent to stop him. Action thriller, starring Jason Statham, Clive Owen and Robert De Niro.
- 12.50** **Criminals: Caught on Camera.** The use of CCTV to fight crime. (R)
- 1.15** **SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming.
- 3.10** **Eamonn & Ruth: How the Other Half Lives.** The luxuries that tend to tempt Britain's super-rich to part with their cash. (R)
- 4.00** **House Doctor.** A flat in Kensal Green, west London. (R)
- 4.25** **Make It Big.** The raffle money goes missing. (R)
- 4.50** **Make It Big.** First episode of the reality show following 12 young entrepreneurs. (R)
- 5.15** **Make It Big.** Things are not going to plan for Graham. (R)
- 5.45** **Angels of Jarm.** (R)
- 5.50** **Angels of Jarm.** (R)



The paradise which gave inspiration for 007 tales



Ian Fleming holidayed in the Seychelles in 1958

THERE'S no time for hesitation as I rush to the helicopter, clinging tightly to my Panama hat as the spinning blades whip up a breeze, writes Sam Wylie-Harris.

Once safely buckled into my leather seat, we soar above Mahé, the largest island in the Seychelles group, and head across the shimmering Indian Ocean to our chosen target, Silhouette Island.

A 20-minute helicopter ride, 20km northwest of Mahé, it's just the sort of place James Bond might choose to moor up his power boat in between secret missions.

Author Ian Fleming holidayed in the Seychelles in 1958, and even used the sun-splashed paradise as a source of inspiration for some of his famous 007 novels.

Two years after his visit, he published a collection of five short stories entitled *For Your Eyes Only* – three of which have been made into blockbuster Bond movies. The final villainous tale in the pentology, *The Hildebrand Rarity*, is set entirely in the Seychelles on-board a luxury yacht named *The Wavecrest*.

Ian based himself at the Northolme hotel on Mahé, a secluded hideaway on the northwest coast with picturesque views of Beau Vallon Bay and Silhouette Island.

Originally built by an eccentric, retired English colonel, the Northolme has been revamped several times and is now a boutique resort. Each villa is hidden in the midst of tropical greenery and reflects the Creole architecture of the island.

The Seychelles is a sanctuary for rare flora, including the impressive cannonball tree, which shades paths to the suites. As I stroll through the gardens, I imagine a beautiful Bond girl dipping her toes in the water and staring out to the Indian Ocean.

Its warm, tropical waters are home to more than 400 species of reef fish and 300 species of coral. From the tranquillity of our sun deck, I spy a hawksbill turtle not far from the shore, where waves lap the granite rocks.

Keen to explore more, we take a kayak out for a paddle across the cove and as we skirt the edge of the coral-fringed granite boulders jutting out from the sea, we spot armies of red crabs basking in the midday sun. Eager to discover more about the history of the Seychelles, we temporarily leave our beach idyll behind and take a tour of Victoria, the capital of the Seychelles located on Mahe.

The smallest capital in the world – I count only two sets of traffic lights – it was named after Queen Victoria during British colonial rule.

There are still plenty of nods to those years, including the Victoria clock tower in the centre of town. Inspired by Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897, it was shipped from London by mail steam ship and erected in her honour in 1903. Originally black, it was painted silver to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee and is still as shiny as a bullet.

Victoria is a bustling port and the Sir Selwyn Selwyn Clarke Market is one of the town's most colourful attractions. Saturday is the busiest day, but we manage to jostle our way into the fishmongers' corner at the market entrance.

Locals haggle for freshly caught tuna, octopus and red snapper, which are displayed in all their freshly caught glory, while barefoot fishermen hose down their filling stations.

Courtesy of our resort, Labriz, we enjoy a private sunset cruise around the island. As we slice through the waves, I sip Champagne with my co-star Giles, whose tastes are as refined as Bond's. We marvel at the sheer beauty and scale of the granite rock formations that emerge from the sea.

If he visited now, 007 would surely give Labriz his seal of approval. I can even imagine Daniel Craig emerging from the crashing waves in those famous blue swimming shorts.



Thousands flock to Erfurt's Christmas markets



Merchants' Bridge – one of Erfurt's main landmarks



One of the pretty streets in Erfurt

Enchanting markets and much, much more

ERFURT in Germany. Ever heard of it?

I have to admit that I hadn't. I thought perhaps it was my pathetic geography to blame. So when my trip to Erfurt, which is located in the heart of Germany, was booked I asked a few people. Most hadn't heard of it either.

It was a relief to know it wasn't my stupidity to blame and my web-based research revealed there would be more to Erfurt than meets the eye. After my trip there, well, what can I say? How can a place steeped in so much history be so little known? What a wonderful place to visit.

Once I did my reading up on Erfurt I couldn't wait to get there. It is the centre of modern Germany and the capital of Thuringia. On March 19 1970, the East and West German heads of government Willi Stoph and Willy Brandt met in Erfurt, the first such meeting since the division of the country. The city is famous for its links to Martin Luther, the medieval theologian Meister Eckhart, the Baroque composer Johann Pachelbel, its Christmas markets – which are among the biggest in Europe – and its local food produce. I couldn't wait.

Following a comfortable Lufthansa flight from Manchester we landed in Frankfurt, my first trip to Germany. My first big thumbs-up on arriving in the country was for the impressive public transport system.

Generally I try to avoid using public transport at home due to being unable to deal with the stress of overcrowding, cancelled and delayed trains, etc.

But our train from Frankfurt airport to Erfurt was clean, comfortable, not crowded and on time. The member of staff who found our seats for us was extremely helpful even though I speak no German and she spoke no English!

We arrived at Erfurt's InterCityHotel to a warm welcome and with enough time to have a little wander around the area close to the hotel and to unpack our suitcases.

The research I had carried out ahead of my trip came in useful at this point as when choosing what to have for dinner, I

HOLIDAYS

By Caroline Jones

remembered that a speciality dish of the region was dumplings. So, despite never having been a huge fan of dumplings (I blame school dinners) I still wanted to give the local food a go. I have to say they were amazing. Nothing like the tooth-shattering boulders we were served up at school. Fresh and soft, yet chewy, I could have eaten a hundred of them. I thought it was only fair to give the local beer a try too. Another thumbs-up from me.

I couldn't wait to get going in Erfurt. The city is known for being the spiritual home of Martin Luther, the great reformer. He lived in Erfurt during his youth and studied at the city's university. He once said: "Erfurt is situated in the best location. It is the perfect place for a city."

Our first day in Erfurt involved a guided tour of the city's historic sites. Following in the footsteps of Martin Luther was an unexpected honour. Luther lived in Erfurt for 10 years, five of those spent as a student at university. As part of our tour we visited the monastery where Luther lived as a monk. Part of the monastery is now a hotel and would be the ideal place to stay for those in need of a quiet and peaceful break.

One highlight was a tour of the oldest standing synagogue in Europe. The building was rediscovered during restoration works and now houses an extensive treasure of medieval gold and silver, including a rare ring of which there are only three in the world. One of these was found in Erfurt.

Another delight of Erfurt is Merchants' Bridge. This is one of the city's main landmarks and is the longest series of inhabited buildings on any bridge in Europe. It is entirely covered in houses and shops. At one time only luxury goods such as spices and medicaments, dyes, precious metals, silk and paper were available, but today small galleries and shops selling local produce line the bridge. Anyone who has read my reviews in the past may recall I'm obsessed



Erfurt's Christmas markets sell hand-crafted items and a wide range of food

with food. So it came as no surprise to me or my companion that my favourite spot on the bridge was, of course, the chocolate shop. I had to be dragged out of there. Delicious and beautifully decorated homemade chocolates lined the shelves of the shop and I had to sample a few – in the interests of a fair and balanced review, of course. They were delicious.

Christmas markets are a huge draw for Erfurt, stalls selling hand-crafted toys and ornaments, candles and locally-produced food as well as international dishes line the streets of the city. Visitors are entertained day and night by live music and fairground rides. More than two million people visit the city's festive markets each year – a huge number for a city with just 200,000 inhabitants.

This year the city will be hosting its 165th Christmas markets but Erfurt is for life, not just for Christmas. This city is among the most beautiful I have ever seen and I can't recommend a visit enough. The

Christmas markets are a great draw for a few weeks of the year but there are so many more reasons to visit this wonderful area. The markets in Weimar, just a short train ride away, also boast an impressive selection of traditional food and crafts.

We enjoyed a guided tour of Weimar and, in the same way as Erfurt, it had so much more to offer. With its parks, gardens, castles and poets' homes, Weimar is also steeped in history.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors each year follow in the footsteps of Goethe and Schille, taking in the historic links to the pair. We enjoyed lunch at the Elephant Hotel and our tour guide informed us that Hitler stayed there often on his visits to the region. To finish off our day there we paid a brief visit to Buchenwald, a memorial to the Second World War concentration camp. This was a shocking and thought-provoking experience.

I wish I could have spent more time in these fascinating areas, and I will return.

An army of magical events lined up for Christmas

AS the festive period approaches, Leeds is set to host an array of magical events and activities, helping families get into the yuletide spirit with world-class entertainment, shopping and delicious food and drink.

From the city's biggest festive market and a magical reindeer trail, to a spectacular skating attraction and spellbinding winter productions, soak up the festivities with a selection of the city's seasonal delights.

Experience the unique continental atmosphere of Leeds' Christkindelmarkt with its twinkling lights and traditional carousel ride, opening on Millennium Square from tomorrow (Friday).

Browse more than 40 authentic German wooden chalet stalls or retreat to the cosy surroundings of the 'Kuh Stall' log-style cabin or 'Alp Chalet' Bavarian eatery.



Leeds comes alive with colour for Christmas

With everything from its famous gluhwein and speciality foods, to live evening entertainment, handcrafted gifts and a selection of children's rides, this German market

is ideal for the whole family to enjoy. For something a little bit different, explore the Asian Bazaar in Kirkgate Market, Europe's biggest indoor market, between December 4-30. Fusing Asian and Indian cultures, this open-air market offers stalls of softly woven silk saris, ornate jewellery and exotic spices.

Every Sunday in December, up to Christmas, Briggate Farmers Market offers foodies the chance to taste sweet and savoury treats from a selection of local independent cheesemongers, bakers, greengrocers and butchers.

For a truly alternative shopping experience, visit Artsmix arts, crafts and produce market on Albion Place. Every Saturday throughout November and December, visitors can dig deep into the treasure chests of handmade goodies on display to find a selection of unique Christmas gifts, from bespoke jewellery and homewares, to bunting and plenty in between – with some scrumptious edible treats on offer too.

For more information go to www.visitleeds.co.uk

Any tips for days out, holidays or places to visit? Email your ideas to lisa.bailey@shropshirestar.co.uk



Pick the last runner beans and freeze them if they are not too large

Gather up seedheads for pretty home decorations

WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK

1. Cut seedheads of *Acanthus spinosus*, teasel and globe artichokes to dry and use for decoration in the home in winter
2. Lift, divide and replant older clumps of perennials such as *crocosmia*, hardy geraniums and hostas
3. Lift canna lilies, which can be treated as tender perennials, trimmed and potted into peat-free compost, store in a frost-free place where it's dry
4. Continue to plant spring-flowering bulbs
5. Pot up half-hardy fuchsias and take them under cover if necessary, keeping them cool and dry but don't let them dry out completely
6. Begin winter digging once the ground has been cleared, particularly if you have heavy clay soil, which benefits from being broken up and exposed to winter weather

7. Pick the last of the runner beans and, if they are not too large, freeze them
8. Cover bare ground with polythene to protect the soil from winter rain
9. Remove old yellowing leaves on Brussels sprouts and other winter brassicas as they develop

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT – Shallots

SHALLOTS are often seen as the up-market relative of onions, having a milder flavour and looking and tasting delicious whole in casseroles, as well as being perfect for pickling.

Yet they are as easy to grow as regular onions. You buy sets in February and March, planting them out with a trowel so they are just covered by soil, spacing them 20cm (8in) apart in rows 30cm (12in) apart. The area needs to be kept weed-free and watered in dry weather.

Bumblebee talk creates a buzz for garden club

MORETON OUTWOODS AND BROMSTEAD GARDENING CLUB

THE speaker for October's meeting was Ron Rock who gave a knowledgeable talk on "Bumblebees".

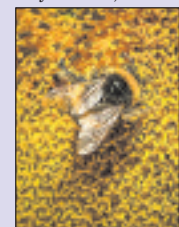
Bumblebees are amongst the most loved and familiar of garden insects. The sight and sound of them buzzing from flower to flower is a quintessential part of British summertime but sadly these charismatic creatures are struggling to survive. In our modern world of paved gardens and intensive agriculture our bumblebees find themselves hungry and homeless.

Twenty-five bumblebee species are found in the UK.

Unfortunately two species have become extinct in the last 80 years and others have declined rapidly. The reason for this is simple and clearly visible; there are now fewer flowers in the countryside to provide bees with the pollen and nectar that they need to survive.

To most people, bees are instantly recognisable but there are distinct differences between the appearance and lives of bumblebees, honeybees and solitary bees. Bumblebees are larger and hairier than their cousins which makes them perfectly suited for colder climates. Their extra insulation allows them to venture out on cold days when honeybees stay tucked up inside. But bumblebee nests are small and they do not store large quantities of honey, so they are more sensitive to the availability of pollen and nectar-rich flowers to feed on.

Bumblebees are social insects and live in nests of up to 400 individuals. Each nest is ruled by a queen and lasts for just one year. This is different to honeybee hives which remain active for several years. In early spring the queen emerges from hibernation to start a new nest. Her first task is to build up her energy reserves so it is really important that she can find plenty of pollen and nectar-rich flowers. Once she has found a suitable nest she will rear her first batch of eggs – a group of female workers whose job it will be to feed and nurture the colony. This process is repeated throughout the summer with the queen rarely leaving the nest. Towards the end of the summer the queen produces male offspring, along with new queens. After mating the male dies off, as do the old queens and workers. Only the new, fertilised queens survive to hibernate



through the winter and establish their own nests the following year. Bumblebees rarely nest in the same location two-years running.

If you find a stranded or sleepy bumblebee you can help to boost her energy levels with a simple sugar-water mix. Mix equal parts of white sugar and warm water then pour into a small container or sponge. Place both the bee and the artificial nectar near to some flowers.

The speaker for September's meeting was Chris Cobb, senior museums officer for Staffordshire County Council based at Shugborough Estate. He gave a very enjoyable and enlightening talk on "Rural Crafts and Trade" and he informed us that the collection had 28,000 objects and 40,000 photographs a few of which he brought to discuss with the group.

He narrowed his talk to our local area and informed us that in Moreton Parish (which included Moreton, Bromstead, Outwoods and Great Chatwell) the population in 1881 was 691 which included 1 Shoemaker, 2 Tailors, 2 Blacksmiths and 1 Builder who was also a Farmer.

In Gnosall there were 5 Wheelwrights, 1 Cooper, 1 Cabinetmaker, 1 Plaster Manufacturer, 2 Blacksmiths, 3 Plumbers (1 of whom was a lady!), 7 Shoemakers, 1 Saddler, 1 Fellmonger (a person who deals in animal hides or skins), 1 Dressmaker, 2 Maltsters and 1 Steam Miller.

The meeting was also the third annual general meeting and the elected committee is: chairman Bob Hayes, deputy chairman Ian Macbeth, treasurer Martin Cowell, deputy treasurer Roger Craven, secretary Cheryl Hall, deputy secretary Mary Cowell, facilitator Maureen Hayes.

The next meeting at Moreton Millennium Hall at 7.30pm will be on November 17 when the speaker will be Brian Nelson on "The Canal from Newport to Shrewsbury".

The annual subscription is £8, with an entrance fee of £2 for members and £3 for non-members. All are welcome and there will be refreshments, a quiz and a raffle.

Sweet smell of toffee apples as leaves change

By Ross Underwood
Head Gardener at Hodnet Hall

OH for scratch and sniff newspapers! Maybe not in an article about bin collections but when it comes to the garden there is one smell that I always look forward to.

The Katsura tree or *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* to give it its proper name is a native of Japan and China where it is the tallest tree in Asia.

It can be found in the fossil record in Europe and America showing that it was once more widespread. Naturally it habits forests where it likes to have moisture at the root and will even tolerate damp conditions.

The leaves are rounded heart shaped and the whole tree has a light feathery effect. Older trees develop greyish bark that fissures and peels attractively in strips.

The best thing about it is the smell. When the leaves turn vibrant red and yellow and fall the tree gives off a powerful smell of burnt sugar or toffee apples. This lasts from when the first leaf falls until the last one drops. And by powerful scent I mean one that you can detect from several metres away rather than having to force your nose into the foliage!

In fact *Cercidiphyllum* are attractive all year round. They have an excellent winter tracery which is shown best when sighted so the sunlight comes from behind. Male trees (*Cercidiphyllum* are dioecious meaning male and female plants are separate) bear clusters of reddish anthers in May which cluster along the branches. Female plants have clusters of banana shaped seed pods.

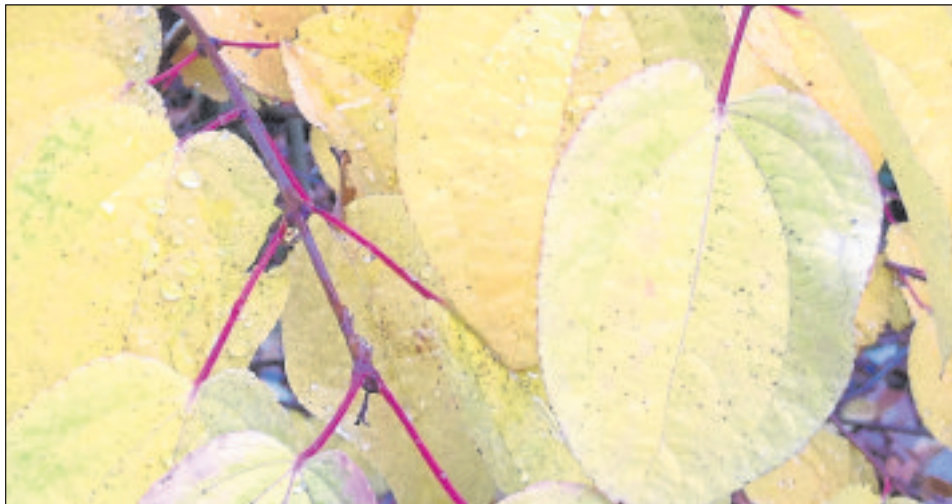
There are only two species, *C. japonicum* comes from Japan and is the one you are most likely to encounter in garden centres. *C. magnificum* is scarcely grown outside botanical gardens and collections and comes from China. It differs only in having slightly larger leaves.

If you are serious I would seek out the cultivar "Heronwood Globe" which has a wonderful rounded crown. For a completely different shape *C. japonicum* "Pendulum" is weeping but if you buy one make sure it is grafted at the top and not the bottom, this will make all the difference as it grows!

The Katsura with the best colour is known only as HeHeHe 316 which is the collection number of a group of three botanists who realised that their initials were HeHeHe, who says botanists lack a sense of humour!

I would urge anyone to seek out the more unusual cultivars as they are often more worthwhile than what is often widely available and seeking them out supports smaller nurseries which is always a good thing.

It can be a bit bewildering when comparing cultivars, especially when planting a tree which is such an investment over time and may outlive you. The best place to start is with a collection where one specimen of the same plant can be compared to another. My advice is to seek out the Plant Heritage



The leaves of the attractive Katsura tree turn from red to yellow before falling to the ground, giving a wonderful fragrance



The trees have a light, feathery look with heart-shaped foliage



Cercidiphyllum bark peels attractively in strips

website (www.nccpg.com) which is a gardening charity that serves as an umbrella organisation for the various National Collections around the country. These collections are built up by private individuals or

institutions with an interest in particular plants and set out to collect as many species and cultivars of a plant family as possible so they can be compared and preserved in cultivation.

The owners are usually very happy to share their experience and knowledge and Shropshire has some very interesting collections which are open to visitors at various times. What are you waiting for?



CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



Jason Smith in the playroom at Hope House Children's Hospice



Hope House Children's Hospice's sibling support worker Sheri Beattie



Aydan Oakes is offered care and support at Hope House

Hospice offers hope



Support services assistant Mo Oliveira



Aydan Oakes in the playroom with fundraising secretary Louise Corfield



Nurse Matt Davies takes a look at the children's books



Jason Smith with student nurse Vicky Yau



Aydan Oakes with Becky Winter

THE sat-nav does not even recognise the address. And if you don't know your way around the narrow country lanes of Morda, near Oswestry, Hope House is quite easy to miss.

But to the hundreds of seriously ill children who visit this unassuming red-brick building, it is a place of great joy.

Last year, Hope House and its sister hospice in Conwy, north Wales, provided vital care for 302 children who are not expected to reach adulthood. But despite its vital work, the charity's fundraising secretary Louise Corfield says there are still many people who do not realise it exists.

"Even in Shropshire, there are a lot of people who do not know where we are, what we do," says Louise, who has worked at Hope House for 18 years.

And the 38-year-old says raising the profile

Report by Mark Andrews

of the Hope House is crucial, as every year it has to raise £5 million to provide its services.

"It is all about promoting the hospice and spreading the word," she says. "We have 600 volunteers across the organisation who help us deliver our work. With fundraising you never know what you are going to get. I have just met a lovely couple who have raised over £400 by holding a plant sale for us."

Sara Kelly is a nurse based at Hope House, who moved to the charity five years ago, having previously worked with children at an NHS hospital.

While many of the duties she performs, such as tending to the children's clinical needs and administering their medication, is similar to what she did in her old job, she says the bond with the children and their families is stronger than it was when she worked in a hospital.

"It is very different to working in the NHS," says Sara.

"You get to know the children and their families much more, you have the time to build a much stronger relationship, you get to spend more time with them."

George – not his real name – has been visiting the Oswestry centre for most of his 16 years, and says he has made many good friends over that time.

"It's a really good place," says the teenager. "I usually go down and use the computers or play the board games. I know a lot of people here."

Wendy Mates, a care assistant, joined the Hope House team 12 months ago, and says she has loved every minute of it.

"I just wanted to do something different, it's a fantastic place, it's so rewarding working with the children," she says.

"You meet lovely people and spend time with them."

Her colleague Becky Winter, 24, is about to take four-year-old Aydan Oakes swimming.

"I went to university to do midwifery, but I

had a change of heart when I heard about this place," she says.

"I love the people we work with. We are making memories and we are part of them."

Many of the children, such as Ayden, have speech problems, so many of the carers teach the children a sign language called Makaton, which helps them to communicate.

The hospice also regularly welcomes visits from the Pets As Therapy charity, which brings dogs in for the children to interact with.

"Ayden loves it when he is able to interact with a dog called Bill," says Becky.

Of course, there is a lot more work that goes on behind the scenes. Last year, the charity provided 3,500 hours of counselling to children and their families, and more than 10,000 hours of support were provided to youngsters in their own homes.

And there are also dozens of support workers who do vital work in ensuring that the hospice in Oswestry runs smoothly.

Over in the kitchen, Mo Oliveira is preparing

the evening meal for the youngsters. Mo, 62, who lives in Chirk, has worked as a cook and domestic helper at the hospice for 17 years.

"I just love my job," she says.

"I feel so much for the children, but if I can do something for them that makes me so happy, it makes me feel like I am doing something worthwhile," she says.

Also part of the domestic team is Claire Jones, who is carrying a pile of freshly laundered towels.

She says cleanliness is crucial to the children given the conditions which many of them have, and great care has to be taken to prevent the spread of germs.

"Cleanliness has to be higher than hospital standard," says the 44-year-old from West Felton, who joined the team four years ago.

Sheri Beattie says it is important to remember that life can be hard for the brothers and sisters of children with serious illnesses too, and as sibling support worker it is her role to provide them with support.

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*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.

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Motoring



Dave 'speeds' into Arthurs

Dave Richards spent six weeks surrounded by Formula 1 cars when he was working at the Goodwood Festival of Speed.

It was enough to convince Dave that he should give up his job as a manual labourer and look for a position within the motor industry.

He contacted distant relative Andrew

Jones, a car sales consultant at award winning Vauxhall dealership Arthurs of Newtown.

Andrew advised there was an opening, put in a good work, and that has resulted in farmer's son Dave, 19, getting his break in the motor trade at the Pool Road Vauxhall showroom.

"I have always had an interest in cars and knew that Andrew enjoyed working at Arthurs," said Dave who

has quickly settled into his new role. A young farmer and very much a 'rural boy,' he lives in the village of Llanwnnog, attended Trefeglwys Primary School and Llanidloes High School.

Steve Hughes, group operations manager said: "Dave is well liked, very conscientious and determined to do well. We expect great things of him."

Pictured: Formula 1 fan Dave finds job in the motor industry.

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Motoring

SUV is a great buy

By Sharon Walters

It's not all that long ago that marques such as Kia were seen as the cheap and not always necessarily cheerful option.

Now nothing could be further from the truth. Kia produces well-built, stylish, reasonably priced vehicles that have one of the best warranty systems around.

Things started to change for the company in the late 1990s and began in earnest in 2006 with a design-led revolution following the appointment of Peter Schreyer as chief design officer. That was the start of Phase I of Kia's move away from being primarily focused on value. And now we are in Phase II which is seeing Kia match and surpass not only customer expectations but also the world's best car marques for engineering, technology, refinement and quality.

One car that has gone through these changes is the Kia Sorento which first appeared in 2002 as the brand's first full-size SUV. Now in its third generation, the 4x4 is bigger and better than ever before.

The entry level at £28,795 comes loaded with standard kit although there's only one engine to choose from, and all cars come with standard four-wheel drive with manual and automatic gearboxes options.

The 2.2-litre version of Kia's R-family turbodiesel engine, which meets EU6 emissions requirements, has plenty of pull with 197bhp and can get from 0 to 60mph in nine seconds with a top speed possible of 124mph. On motorway driving it cruises very comfortably at 70mph with the reassurance of being aware it has that bit of 'extra' if you need to get out of any trouble. And although it's a far-sized car, it copes well with winding rural and pot-holed covered roads.



Sorento features the Dynamax all-wheel-drive system first seen in Kia's Sportage. This is an intelligent, electronically controlled all-wheel-drive system which continuously monitors driving conditions and anticipates when all-wheel drive will be needed, rather than simply reacting to changing conditions. Normally it delivers 100 per cent of engine torque to the front wheels, but the torque can be redistributed up to a maximum of 60:40 front-to-rear to enhance cornering stability or if road conditions deteriorate. For off-road driving, owners can manually select lock mode, which gives a 50:50 torque split at speeds of up to 25mph. There are four trim levels, badged KX-1, KX-2, KX-3 and KX-4. Depending on model, there's a choice of six-speed manual or automatic transmission.

All four trim grades have seven seats, now with a 40:20:40 split in the middle row and a 50:50 split in the rear. The third row

of seats fold flush into the boot floor, while the second row also folds flat by pulling a handle in the boot and can slide back and forth to accommodate larger passengers in the third row. And it really is easy to fold and move those seats. I loaded my Sorento with friends to gauge the comfort level and even those in the very back said the ride was good and they didn't feel packed in like sardines. Equally I did a trip to a DIY store (not one of my favourite places), put the seats down and found it to be a very good load lugger.

Depending on model, the Sorento features a number of highly advanced new safety and convenience technologies including adaptive smart cruise control to maintain a gap to the vehicle ahead, speed limit information, around-view monitoring, cross traffic alert to prevent the owner from backing out of a parking space into the path of an approaching vehicle, a smart park

assist system, lane departure warning with blind spot detection and self-dimming adaptive front lighting.

Extensive standard features include alloy wheels, roof rails and a rear spoiler, cornering lights integrated into the foglights, LED daytime running lights, front wiper de-icers, electrically-adjustable, folding and heated door mirrors, steering wheel-mounted controls, all-round electric windows and cruise control with speed limiter. Safety is taken care of by electronic stability control, vehicle stability management, trailer assist, ABS with electronic brake force distribution and brake assist, six airbags, active front head-rests, front seat belt pre-tensioners and load limiters and an active bonnet to protect pedestrians.

And if you do want to tow a horsebox or a caravan, Sorento can manage 2,500kg in manual format and 2,000kg in automatic.

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REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: KIA PICANTO 1.25 CHILLI ECODYNAMICS SPECIAL EDITION 3DR

36 monthly payments	Cash price	Customer deposit	KIA Deposit allowance	GFV (Optional final payment)	Total amount payable	APR Representative
£149.80	£10,395.00	£1,000.00	£500.00	£5,299.75	£10,395.00	0%

Based on 8,000 miles per annum, excess mileage charge is 14.9p per mile for the first 5,000 miles and at twice that rate thereafter.

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: KIA CEE'D 1.4 SR7 5DR SPECIAL EDITION

36 monthly payments	Cash price	Customer deposit	KIA Deposit allowance	Total charge for credit	GFV (Optional final payment)	Total amount payable	APR Representative
£197.51	£12,995.00	£198.00	£1,500.00	£1,244.86	£5,431.50	£14,239.86	4.9%

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APR: 7.9%	Weekly Payments: £15
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52 JAGUAR S TYPE AUTO Leather, Low Miles	£3895	
V JAGUAR XND Low Mileage, Silver, MUST BE SEEN	POA	
CAR OF THE WEEK		
54 JAGUAR X TYPE 2.5 V6 Auto, BRG, 66,000 miles, stunning car	£2495	£2495
14 VAUXHALL CORSA EXCITE Blue, 7000 miles	£9995	
60 FORD GRAND C-MAX TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI Auto, Blue, 55k, AUTOMATIC	£9995	
60 VW POLO 1.2 9000 5-door, Silver, low mileage	SOLD	
09 VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIVE 1.8 Silver, 24k, Lady Owner	£2595	£2595
09 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI Black, High Mileage	£2495	£2495
09 FIAT BRAVO 1.4 Dynamic, 5 door, Silver, Alloys	£2495	£2495
58 PEUGEOT 207 SHD 1.6 (90), Red, low mileage, full history	£2495	£2495
08 FORD FIESTA ZETEC Climate, 3 door, bronze metallic	£2495	£2495
08 FORD FIESTA 1.4 Ghia, 5 door, blue	£2495	£2495
08 FORD KA, blue, 68,000 miles	£2495	£2495
57 MINI COOPER 1.6, White, 1 Lady Owner	SOLD	
56 MERCEDES 180 CDI CLASSIC SE Diesel, Silver	£2495	£2495
56 VAUXHALL VECTRA Exclusive 1.8 Red Metallic	£2895	
56 CITROEN XSARA PICASSO HDI Diesel, Silver, FSH	£2195	
55 PEUGEOT 307 XSI 2.0 HDI Diesel, Bronze Met, Leather	£3650	
54 FORD FIESTA FLAME 3-door, Silver	£2495	
53 BMW 320 2.2 CI COUPE, Unrusted Alloys, Extensive Service History, Low Mileage for year	£3495	
Outstanding Condition, Must be Seen		
VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2.0 CDTI Diesel	£1650	
RANGE ROVER 4.6 HSE AUTO Leather, Excellent Cond	£1995	
SUMMER SUN / SUMMER FUN		
FORD STREET KA Blue Convertible	£1795	
MG TF Convertible, in Yellow	£1995	
AUTOMATICS		
SAAB 95 VECTOR 2.0 AUTOMATIC, Superb condition, must be seen	£2295	£1795
HONDA CIVIC 1.6L8, Exceptional Condition, Previously supplied by ourselves to one of our customers 10 Years ago. Owned by same customer since then		£995
4 X 4 / COMMERCIALS		
SSANGYONG REXTON Diesel, Low Mileage	SOLD	
RENAULT KANGOO DIESEL SLD High mileage, extensive history	£2000+VAT	
MITSUBISHI SHOGUN PININ Very clean and tidy for age, cheap 4x4 for the winter	£1200	
SIT ON LAWNMOWER SIMPLICITY, Hardly Used	POA	

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11 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM TDCI, MET. BLACK, ONE OWNER, F.S.H. 54K	£7,495	
09 VW GOLF SE TdI SILVER, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 58K	£7,495	
10 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE CDTI EXC SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 37K	£6,495	
12 SUZUKI SPLASH SZ4 BLUE, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER £30 ROAD TAX 10K	£5,495	
60 FIAT 500 LOUNGE GREY, SERVICE HISTORY, £30 ROAD TAX 25K	£5,995	
61 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.7 CDTI SE £30 FLEX 130PS, RED, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, £30 ROAD TAX 37K	£5,795	
12 NISSAN MICRA AGENA 1.2 5 DOOR, MET. RED, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, £30 ROAD TAX 42K	£5,650	
05 SKODA FABIA 1.9 TDI VRS SILVER, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 70K	£4,495	
10 SKODA FABIA 1.6 TDI ESTATE, BLUE, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 60K	£4,995	
60 PEUGEOT 207 S 1.4 5 DOOR, BLACK, AIR CON, ELEC. WINDOWS, SERVICE HIST. 36K	£4,795	
58 VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 3 DOOR, BLACK, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HIST. 36K	£4,395	
59 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 EXTREME 3 DOOR, MET. BLUE, ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HISTORY 38K	£4,290	
09 NISSAN NOTE 1.4 ACENTA BEIGE, AIR CON, CRUISE CONTROL, ALLOY WHEELS, F.S.H 53K	£4,195	
06 PEUG 207 VERVE 1.4 5 DR, BLUE, CO, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HIST. 49K	£3,895	
06 HONDA CIVIC SE VTEC 1.8 SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 56K	£3,875	
57 CITROEN C3 EXECUTIVE HDI GREY, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HIS. £30 ROAD TAX 49K	£3,695	
06 NISSAN PIXO N-TEC GREY, SERVICE HISTORY £20 ROAD TAX 46K	£3,650	
08 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 1.2 16V, BLACK, ALLOYS, SERVICE HISTORY 50K	£3,495	
57 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5 DOOR, GREY, SERVICE HISTORY 52K	£3,495	
06 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION AUTO, 5 DOOR, BLACK, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 37K	£3,495	
07 FIAT GRANDE PUNTO DYNAMIC SPORT 1.4 BLUE, ONE OWNER, FULL SERV. HISTORY 29K	£3,075	
06 CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 HDI SILVER, ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 68K	£2,695	
54 VAUXHALL ASTRA ENJOY CDTI BLUE, SERVICE HISTORY 74K	£2,150	
05 FORD KA, SILVER, 2 OWNERS, LOW MILEAGE 22K	£1,795	
TO CLEAR		
53 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 1.6 VALVE CLUB 7 SEATER, BLUE 113K	£1,350	
06 SEAT Ibiza 1.4 3 DOOR, RED, POWER STEERING, SERVICE HISTORY 117K	£995	
COMMERCIALS PLUS VAT		
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60 TRANSIT 280 SWB STD. ROOF, WHITE, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 49K	£7,745	
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60 FORD TRANSIT 350 LWB TIPPER WHITE 36K	£4,995	
60 PEUGEOT PARTNER HDI SE 3 SEATER, WHITE, ONE OWNER, SERVICE HISTORY 47K	£4,695	
11 PEUGEOT TIPPER HDI PROFESSIONAL, SIDE DOOR, WHITE, CENTRAL LOCKING, AIR CONDITIONING, SERVICE HISTORY 57K	£4,375	
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Motoring



Picasso ticks all the boxes

By Graham Breeze

It feels a bit like sitting in a fish tank but there's no denying that Citroen's Grand C4 Picasso offers the best visibility in the MPV sector.

It's like being in a bubble with the expansive windscreen stretching up and over the driver and front seat passenger, meaning there's absolutely nothing to obscure your forward view. The top-spec Blue HDi Exclusive 120 on test also came with a panoramic sunroof just to add to the greenhouse effect.

At first it's unnerving and leaves the driver feeling a little too exposed until you get used to the feeling, and it's important to remember that while you can see everything outside, everyone can see inside the cabin too.

It's really all about space in this sector and the Grand C4 has been picking up awards all over the country thanks to a huge boot and comfortable seating. You get 790-litres of space with the rear seats down and 2,181-litres with the second row collapsed.

That's a lot of space and while Citroen label the C4 a seven-seater the

rear pair are really only enough to cater for the children. Plans to carry three golfers with clubs and three wives with luggage and shopping on a weekend away had to be re-thought. There just wasn't enough room, even only using six seats.

But there's nothing else in the sector that could cope either though with five adults and two children there would be plenty of room for luggage too.

The cabin-like atmosphere up-front is matched with all the latest technology, including a 12" panoramic HD central display which comes on top of the 7" touchscreen control centre. The central display is a dramatic and very useful introduction and the only issue with it was that despite adjusting the contrast it still annoyingly reflected in the side windows at night.

The Exclusive is brilliantly equipped. You get an electrically opening boot, stop-start system, self-parking, cruise control, reversing camera, ABS, Esc with traction control, hill-start assist, automatic hazard lights and blind spot monitoring.

There's also a DAB radio, Sat-Nav, Bluetooth, automatic lights and wipers, a child observation rear mirror and a guide-me-home headlight function.

Putting the word "Blue" in front of a vehicle's description means low emissions these days and the Grand Picasso is right up there with the best in class. The 1560 diesel unit produces 120hp, a top speed of 117mph and 0-62mph in 11.6seconds yet still achieves 106g/km in CO2 emissions.

And just as importantly combined fuel figures are an amazing 70.6mpg on the combined cycle and only drop to 62.8mpg on the urban cycle.

On the road there's a comfortable driving experience, though the driver's seat could do with a bit more leg support and you do feel the bumps around town. Handling is generally good with the light steering helping you get into those tight space without using the automatic parking system.

This Grand Picasso is not cheap though. The basic on the road price for the Blue HDi 120 Exclusive is £26,145 and the test model included metallic paint and park assist to take the price to £27,115.

Should you buy one? Well if you need space and seats it ticks all the boxes and is also one of the cheapest to run in the MPV sector. The problem could be the price – though the range starts at less than £20,000.





2007 07 AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sportback
Manual, 140bhp, Blue Metallic, FSH
£5,499



2008 08 HYUNDAI SANTA FE CDX+ 2.2 Diesel Auto 4x4,
7 seater, Black, Leather interior,
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Bronze Metallic, 68,500 miles, Climate
Control, Parking Sensors £9,499



2010 SEAT IBIZA 1.2 S
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2013 63 CITROEN DS3 Dstyle Plus 1.6,
1 Owner, Bright Yellow Manual,
12,000 miles, FSH £8,999



2010 10 JAGUAR 3.0 XF TDV6 LUXURY 4-door Saloon,
In Black with full Leather Interior, 39,000 miles, Reverse
Camera, Sat Nav, Climate Control, FSH £14,999



2008 08 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi SE Estate,
Red Metallic, 6 Speed Manual, 47,000 miles,
Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, 47,000 miles £10,499



2014 14 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi
5-door. Manual in White, 11,000 miles, 1 Owner,
In White, FSH £10,999



2-11 61 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi
3-door. Green Metallic, 20,000 miles,
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2012 62 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 DESIGN Manual. Bright Red, 1 Owner,
7 Seats, 29,000 miles £8,999



2012 12 HONDA CRV 2.0 SE Plus 4x4 Manual. Metallic Bronze,
9,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH
£13,999



2012 62 NISSAN NOTE 1.4 NTEC
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FSH, Only 10,000 miles
£7,299

2011 61	AUDI A3 1.6 Sportback, Manual, Metallic Silver, 32,000 miles, FSH	£10,999
2011 11	AUDI A1 1.4 TFSi SPORT 3-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 35,000 miles, FSH	£10,999
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2006 06	AUDI RS4 SALOON Manual, Bright Red, Only 54,000 miles, FSH, Stunning Condition	£21,999
2007 07	AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sportback Manual, 140bhp, Blue Metallic, FSH	£5,499
2012 12	BMW X1 SERIES 2.0d AUTOMATIC Metallic Bronze, 51,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH.....	£13,999
2007 57	BMW X3 2.0 SE Diesel. Bronze Metallic, 68,500 miles, Climate Control, Parking Sensors	£9,499
2011 11	CHEVROLET LACETTI ESTATE 1.8, Automatic, 1 Owner	£4,999
2013 63	CITROEN DS3 Dstyle Plus 1.6, 1 Owner, Bright Yellow Manual, 12,000 miles, FSH.....	£8,999
2012 12	CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE 1.6 HDi Manual. Metallic Blue, 16,000 miles, 1 Owner.....	£8,999
2012 61	CITROEN 1.0 VTR+ 3-door, Red, 20,000 miles, A/C, Zero Road Tax	£4,999
2011 11	CITROEN C4 PICASSO 1.6 HDi VTR+ MPV. Bronze Metallic, 57,000 miles, Parking Sensors, FSH.....	£7,999
2014 14	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi 5-door. Manual in White, 11,000 miles, 1 Owner, In White, FSH.....	£10,999
2012 61	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi ZETEC 5-door Manual. 56,000 miles, FSH, Black	£8,499
2011 11	FORD FOCUS ST 3-door Manual. Bright Orange, 38,000 miles, FSH	£14,499
2009 59	FORD KA 1.3 ZETEC 3-door. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles	£4,499
2012 12	FORD FIESTA TDCi Manual, 5-door. Bright Red, 17,000 miles, FSH	£7,499
2010 60	FORD FIESTA 1.25 EDGE. Manual, 3-door, Metallic Silver, 31,000 miles	£5,499
2012 62	FORD FIESTA 1.2S STYLE 5-door. Manual, White, 17,000 miles	SOLD
2012 12	HONDA CRV 2.0 SE Plus 4x4 Manual. Metallic Bronze, 9,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH	£13,999
2010 60	HYUNDAI 130 PREMIUM 1.6 CRDi Estate Manual, Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH.....	£7,499
2008 08	HYUNDAI SANTA FE CDX+ 2.2 Diesel Auto 4x4, 7 seater, Black, Leather interior, 69,000 miles, FSH	£8,999
2008 08	HYUNDAI SANTA FE CDX+ 2.2 Diesel Auto 4x4, 7 seater, Black, Leather interior, 69,000 miles, FSH.....	£8,999
2010 10	JAGUAR 3.0 XF TDV6 LUXURY 4-door Saloon. In Black with full Leather Interior, 39,000 miles, Reverse Camera, Sat Nav, Climate Control, FSH	£14,999
2009 09	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 HSE AUTO. Metallic Silver, Full Leather, Sun Roof, Sat Nav, 63,000 miles, FSH	£13,499
2007 07	LAND ROVER FREELANDER GS Manual. Metallic Silver, 35,000 miles	£10,999
2007 07	MERCEDES A160 CDI CLASSIC Manual. Metallic Blue, 37,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2011 61	MINI COOPER DIESEL Bright Red, White Roof, Manual, 40,000 miles, 1 Owner	£7,999
2013 63	MINI 1.6 PACEMAN COOPER Manual 3-door. Bright Red, 7,000 miles, full Leather, Sat Nav, only 7,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2011 60	MITSUBISHI LANCER 2.0 TDi HATCHBACK Manual, Metallic Blue, 57,000 miles, FSH	£6,499
2012 62	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 NTEC 5-door, Blue Metallic, One Owner, FSH, Only 10,000 miles	£7,299
2008 58	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCi ACENTA. Manual, Metallic Blue, 62,000 miles, FSH.....	SOLD
2009 09	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 3-door, Metallic Blue, 61,000 miles	£3,999
2012 12	PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDi ACCESS 5-door Manual. Metallic Grey, £30 a year Road Tax, 50,000 miles	£6,499
2011 61	PEUGEOT BIPPER HDi Diesel Van. Silver Metallic, Side Loading Door, One Owner, 49,800 miles.....	£4,999+VAT
2007 57	PEUGEOT 308 S 1.6 HDi 5-door. Black, 77,300 miles, Air Conditioning	£3,999
2011 61	RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi ESTATE Tom Tom, Manual, Metallic Red, 40,000 miles, 1 Owner	£6,999
2009 59	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi Manual, 5-door, Metallic Blue, £30 Road Tax, 48,000 miles	£5,499
2012 12	SEAT ALTEA XLL 2.0 SE TDi Estate, Grey Metallic, One Owner, 22,300 miles, FSH	£9,999
2010 10	SEAT IBIZA 1.2 S 5-door Manual. Metallic Silver, Air Con, 22,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2009 59	SEAT IBIZA SPORT 1.6 Automatic 3-door. Blue Metallic, One Owner, Only 16,000 miles	£5,699
2012 12	SKODA FABIA 1.6 ELEGANCE Diesel Estate Manual. 28,000 miles, FSH.....	£7,499
2005 55	SMART CITY PASSION Convertible Auto. Silver Metallic, 53,500 miles, £30 Road Tax.....	£3,499
2014 14	SUZUKI SX4 S-CROSS SZ-T 5 Door, Green Metallic 7,990 Miles Parking Sensors DAB Radio One Owner	£11,999
2009 09	SUZUKI SX4 GLX 1.6 5 Door, Blue Metallic, 36,700 miles, Climate Control, Alloy Wheels, 2 Owners, 36,700 miles	£5,499
2012 62	VAUXHALL ANTARA 2.2 CDT 4x4 Manual, Metallic Black, 18,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH	£11,499
2012 62	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 DESIGN. Manual, Bright Red, 1 Owner, 7 Seats, 29,000 miles	£8,999
2008 58	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE MPV 5 Door, 7 Seats, Silver Metallic, Air Con, 72,800 miles	£3,999
2011 61	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 3-door, Green Metallic, 20,000 miles, Alloy Wheels, Air Con, FSH	£5,999
2008 58	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE MPV 5 Door, 7 Seats, Silver Metallic, Air Con, 72,800 miles	£3,999
2009 59	VOLVO XC90 DS Automatic 4x4, 7 seater, Metallic Silver, Tow Bar, Roofbars, Bluetooth, 67,000 miles, FSH.....	£13,999
2009 59	VW GOLF 1.4S 3-door. Manual, Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles, FSH.....	£6,499
2014 64	VW PASSAT SALOON 2.0 TDi 140bhp, Manual, Metallic Red, 1 Owner, FSH, 24,000 miles	£11,999
2008 08	VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi SE Estate, Red Metallic, 6 Speed Manual, 47,000 miles, Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, 47,000 miles.....	£10,499

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Sep-15	116d Sport 5-door Sports Hatch B2	Jet Black	£23,330	£19,950	£3,380	5.9% APR
Oct-15	118i Sport 5-door Sports Hatch B3	Crimson Red Non-Metallic	£22,982	£20,450	£2,532	5.9% APR
Oct-15	218i Luxury Active Tourer B38 1.5	Alpine White Non-Metallic	£27,195	£23,950	£3,245	4.9% APR
Oct-15	218i Luxury Gran Tourer B38 1.5i	Alpine White Non-Metallic	£30,180	£26,950	£3,230	5.9% APR
Oct-15	218i M Sport Coupe B38 1.5i	Alpine White Non-Metallic	£27,195	£23,950	£3,245	5.9% APR
Sep-15	218i Sport Coupe	Alpine White	£24,800	£21,950	£2,850	5.9% APR
Jul-15	318d Luxury Saloon Automatic	Alpine White	£34,435	£25,950	£8,485	5.4% APR
Jul-15	320d M Sport Touring Automatic	Mineral Grey	£38,585	£29,950	£8,635	5.4% APR
Oct-15	420d M Sport Coupe B470 2.0d	Alpine White Non-Metallic	£37,775	£32,450	£5,325	4.9% APR
Oct-15	430d xDrive M Sport Coupe N57 3.0	Mineral Grey Metallic	£44,990	£37,950	£7,040	4.9% APR
Oct-15	435i M Sport Gran Coupe N55 3.0	Alpine White Non-Metallic	£50,165	£40,950	£9,215	4.9% APR
Sep-15	520d M Sport Saloon Automatic	Carbon Black	£41,230	£31,950	£9,280	5.4% APR
Sep-15	520d M Sport Touring Automatic	Mineral Grey	£43,360	£34,950	£8,410	5.4% APR
Sep-15	M235i Convertible	Alpine White	£41,085	£34,750	£6,335	5.9% APR
Oct-15	X4 xDrive20d M Sport B47 2.0d	Sophisto Grey Xirallic Metallic	£44,740	£39,950	£4,790	6.2% APR
Oct-15	X5 xDrive30d M Sport N57 3.0	Mineral White Metallic	£57,535	£49,950	£7,585	6.2% APR
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Monthly Payments	Term of Agreement	Annual Mileage	Customer Deposit	Dealer Deposit Contribution	BMW UK Deposit Contribution	Total Deposit	On the road cash Price	Amount of Credit
£219.00	48	8000	£2,999.00	£1,869.51	£650.00	£5,518.51	£22,285.00	£16,766.49
Rate of Interest (Fixed)	Credit Arrangement fee	Credit Completion Fee	Option to Purchase Fee	Optional Final Payment	Total Amount Payable	Excess Mileage Charge	APR	
5.90%	£0.00	£0.00	£1.00	£9,496.13	£22,788.13	6.14 per mile	5.90%	

BMW 520d M Sport Saloon Automatic

Monthly Payments	Term of Agreement	Annual Mileage	Customer Deposit	Dealer Deposit Contribution	BMW UK Deposit Contribution	Total Deposit	On the road cash Price	Amount of Credit
£349.00	48	8000	£2,999.00	£3,572.05	£4,000.00	10,571.05	36,715.01	£26,143.96
Rate of Interest (Fixed)	Credit Arrangement fee	Credit Completion Fee	Option to Purchase Fee	Optional Final Payment	Total Amount Payable	Excess Mileage Charge	APR	
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Sky Bet League One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Walsall	16	9	5	2	28	14	32
Burton Albion	16	9	2	4	16	13	32
Gillingham	16	9	2	3	31	18	31
Coveントリー	16	4	3	29	17	31	
Wigan Athletic	16	7	6	3	26	18	27
Bury	16	7	6	3	28	24	27
Millwall	16	7	4	5	24	23	25
Sheffield Utd	16	7	4	5	24	22	24
Bradford City	16	6	6	4	17	26	24
Scunthorpe Utd	16	7	2	7	21	28	23
Chesham Town	16	7	2	7	22	23	23
Southend United	16	6	5	5	18	23	23
P'borough Utd	16	6	3	7	32	27	21
Rochdale	16	6	5	5	20	18	21
P'owle Utd	16	6	5	5	12	18	38
Colchester Utd	16	5	6	5	25	34	20
Shrewsbury Town	16	5	2	9	19	23	17
Doncaster Rvs	16	4	7	13	12	27	
Oldham Athletic	16	4	7	13	12	26	
Blackpool	16	4	4	18	15	23	16
Fleetwood Twn	16	3	9	19	24	24	
Barnsley	16	3	4	19	27	14	
Swindon Town	16	3	4	9	20	27	13
Crewe Alexandra	16	3	4	9	14	24	13

Vanarama National

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Nuneaton Twn	16	10	3	3	27	15	33
AF C Poole	16	10	2	4	13	32	32
Solihull Moors	16	9	5	0	29	11	32
Harrowgate Twn	16	9	3	3	24	16	30
North Ferriby Utd	16	7	2	3	24	10	28
Tamworth	16	6	9	1	21	13	32
Boston Utd	16	8	3	7	32	32	27
Stockport County	16	7	5	4	16	15	26
Chorley	16	7	5	3	23	22	24
Curzon Ashton	16	7	4	5	25	18	24
Stratford City	16	6	9	1	19	23	18
Alfreton Twn	16	6	4	5	19	17	21
Hednesford Twn	16	6	4	5	23	30	16
Gloucester City	16	6	4	5	23	30	16
Bradford P.A.	16	4	3	6	16	18	15
G'borough Tm	16	4	3	7	15	20	15
Ud'ham Utd	16	4	2	9	12	14	14
Corby Twn	16	3	5	8	22	35	14
Brackley Twn	16	4	7	16	22	31	
AF C Ferret Utd	16	3	4	10	14	24	13
Leamington	16	3	4	10	17	24	13
Worcester City	16	3	8	15	22	12	

Evo-Stik Div One (S)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Stafford Rvs	16	11	4	1	34	10	37
P'owle Utd	16	10	3	3	27	15	33
Coalgate Twn	16	9	4	1	23	9	31
Daventry Twn	16	8	2	8	24	32	26
Mk Drayton Twn	16	7	3	6	24	21	24
Leek Twn	16	7	3	6	24	21	24
Sheffield	16	6	5	5	30	27	23
Basford Utd	16	6	5	6	21	20	23
Stockbridge PS14	16	6	5	6	21	20	23
Radcliffe Utd	16	6	4	2	22	18	22
Lincoln Utd	16	5	6	4	21	22	22
Goole AFC	16	5	7	7	20	22	22
Doncaster Rvs	16	5	6	3	25	25	21
Chasetown	16	4	5	4	17	19	19
Grimsby	16	6	1	9	17	24	19
King's Lynn	16	4	5	7	19	24	19
Belper Twn	16	4	3	8	19	28	15
Carlton Twn	16	4	2	10	18	24	14
Grimsby Dyno	16	4	2	10	24	39	13
Lincoln Dyno	16	4	2	10	24	39	13
Lidwade	16	2	5	10	18	35	11

West Midlands League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Shawbury Utd	17	12	2	3	20	26	41
Craughmond	22	12	5	5	37	34	41
Hagley Twn	19	12	4	3	47	22	40
Dudley Shroton	16	12	1	3	39	12	37
Dudley Shroton	16	12	1	3	39	12	37
W'On Spg Com	19	10	7	2	50	42	32
Smethwick Rgs	19	9	3	5	40	30	31
Elmestree Rgs	16	8	4	6	36	29	28
W'On Casuals	19	9	5	5	37	16	38
Wellington	16	8	3	5	37	25	27
Pegasus Juniors	18	7	3	7	35	34	27
Oldham Athletic	18	7	3	7	35	34	27
Wellington Twn	16	5	7	3	36	23	23
BC Rgs	17	5	6	2	35	26	21
Dudley Twn	17	5	6	2	35	26	21
Stone Old	17	5	6	2	35	26	21
Malvern Twn	17	6	1	6	38	29	19
Bilston Twn Com	15	7	3	4	26	18	
Bewdley Twn	19	5	11	30	45	16	
Worcester Twn	19	12	1	6	17	15	16
Wellington Arms	17	2	4	11	17	15	11
Tipton Twn	19	0	1	16	11	72	3

Midland Men's Hockey League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
AF C Ludlow	14	2	4	16	14	35	
Hereford LC	12	9	1	2	33	11	28
Darlington Twn	14	8	4	2	37	21	28
Oldham Athletic	14	8	4	2	37	21	28
Shifnal Twn	12	7	2	3	30	18	23
St Martins	14	7	2	5	37	30	23
Kingston Twn	11	6	3	2	25	18	21
C D Sports	14	5	4	5	25	18	21
Wens Nest	14	5	4	5	25	18	21
Wendlesfield	13	6	4	1	18	15	19
Shenstone Path	13	6	4	1	18	15	19
Trusley	14	2	2	20	24	11	
Bartestree	14	4	2	8	20	24	14
Burton Dudley	14	4	2	8	20	24	14
Penrith	13	2	4	7	25	38	10
Worcesters Raiders	12	3	0	9	25	45	9
Wryley	12	1	4	7	20	36	10

English Rugby Clubs

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Macfield	9	8	0	1	310	166	40
Sedgley Park	9	8	0	1	309	168	37
Wolverhampton	9	6	0	3	247	194	34
Sandals	9	6	0	3	174	154	27
Olney	9	5	0	4	199	193	26
Worcesters	9	5	0	4	199	193	26
Leicester Lions	9	5	0	4	199	193	26
Harrowgate	9	5	0	4	199	193	26
Southbourne	9	4	1	4	193	153	25
Worcesters	9	4	1	4	193	153	25
Sale	9	4	1	4	193	153	25
Princes Green	9	4	1	4	193	153	25
Tydale	9	2	0	7	205	206	14
Worcesters	9	2	0	7	205	206	14
Bradford	9	2	0	7	192	282	10
Lutonians	9	1	1	7	152	272	8

National League 3 Midlands

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Hinckley	8	8	0	0	276	91	38
Old Haleonians	8	7	0	1	239	99	34
Southampton	8	6	0	2	210	150	27
Bromsgrove	8	6	0	2	200	193	26
Lichfield	8	4	0	4	197	175	21
Nuneaton	8	4	0	4	192	144	20
Newport	8	4	0	4	192	144	20
Sandwich	8	4	0	4	116	138	18
Syston	8	3	0	5	156	187	16
P'ham/Solihull	8	2	0	6	153	210	13
P'orough Lns	8	3	0	5	150	155	11
Longton	8	2	0	6	135	241	11
Sutton Coldfield	8	2	0	6	142	289	9
Old N'tonians	8	1	0	7	124	213	9

Midlands 1 West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
S'tord U'aron	6	6	0	0	245	140	31
Worce Wdrs	6	5	2	1	260	174	30
Bourneville	6	5	0	1	237	199	26
Burton	6	5	0	1	241	144	24
Wintley	6	4	0	2	154	177	18
Hereford	6	5	0	1	169	183	23
Brighnorton	6	4	2	0	215	104	23
Kenilworth	6	4	0	1	161	149	22
Dudley Kings	6	3	1	2	126	189	20
Stoke on Trent	6	3	1	2	147	177	18
Crewe/Nantwich	6	3	1	2	118	195	18
Leek	6	2	1	3	152	214	10
Sihillians	6	1	0	5	120	214	8
Walsall	6	1	0	5	119	327	6

Midlands 2 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Moseley Oak	6	6	0	0	298	65	30
Wolverhampton	6	6	0	0	281	58	30
Old Salfords	6	5	1	0	151	97	24
Kidderminster	6	4	0	2	195	135	20
Camp Hill	6	3	0	3	130	147	17
Stratford	6	3	0	3	164	145	15
Wintley	6	3	0	3	150	97	14
Seasides	6	3	0	3	83	136	13
Stafford	6	2	0	4	111	196	9
Hednesford	6	1	0	5	108	268	8
Shrewsbury	6	1	0	5	113	177	7
Harborne	6	0	0	6	56	249	0

Midlands 3 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Tamworth	6	5	0	1	183	60	25
Loughborough	6	4	0	2	197	146	20
W'castle Staffs	6	4	0	2	130	93	18
Cannock	6	4	0	2	138	99	19
Clebury M	6	4	0	2	180	51	15
Clebury	6	3	0	3	86	135	15
Willenhall	6	3	0	3	134	150	13
Edwardsians	6	1	1	4	132	145	10
Bloxwich	6	1	0	5	62	201	0
Wendesbury	6	0	0	6	52	180	1

Midlands 4 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Uxbridge	6	5	0	1	193	149	25
Barton-Ud'ham	6	3	0	3	201	117	19
Brighnorton	6	3	0	3	210	117	19
Rushley Castle	6	4	0	2	70	18	
Bishopsgate	6	3	0	3	161	87	17
Church Stretton	6	3	0	3	132	160	15
Thurford Herts	6	2	0	4	107	61	11
Aldridge	6	2	0	4	35	140	8
Aston OE	6	4	0	2	61	31	10
Market Drayton	6	1	0	5	121	0	

Midlands 5 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
St Leonards	6	4	0	2	125	125	21
Essington	6	4	0	2	162	96	21
Greyhound	6	3	0	3	117	18	18
Stourport	6	2	0	4	76	91	9
Tenbury	6						

Llan pay price for slow start at leaders

LLANRHAEADR paid the price for a sluggish start as they slipped to a 4-2 defeat at unbeaten title favourites Penrhyncoch in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

After shipping in three goals in the first 18 minutes, Llan were left with a mountain to climb despite rallying in the second half to make a real fight of it.

However, the damage was done in the first period, with Penrhyn taking the spoils to move top of the table on goal difference from previous leaders **WELSHPOOL**.

However, Llan were a different proposition in the second half, and reduced the arrears 10 minutes after the break when the lively Iwan Matthews rounded keeper Lee Jenkins to score.

Wayne Austin netted a second for Llan from the penalty spot after Matthews had been brought down by Jon Foligno, but the second half fightback proved to no avail.

Previous leaders **WELSHPOOL** lost pole position after being held 1-1 at Llanidloes Town in an exciting affair at Victoria Avenue.

Will Thomas gave Pool an early lead when cutting in to fire a low shot past keeper Gareth Barkeer from a short corner,

But the Daffs soon earned parity when Josh Evans whipped a free kick into the box and the ball was deflected into the net off a defender.

Llani played some of their best football of the season, but were kept at bay by a resilient Pool side who now host leaders Penrhyncoch on Saturday.

WATERLOO ROVERS notched a 3-2 home verdict against Hay St Mary to move up to sixth spot in the table.

They found themselves trailing before two quick fire goals from Will Pritchard gave them a 2-1 interval lead.

Andrew Gwilt made it three straight after the break, before Hay kept their hopes alive with a second goal late on.

MONTGOMERY'S basement problems continue to mount after their narrow 2-1 loss at home to Machynlleth.

Goals from Steff Rogers and Jonny Roberts boosted **BERRIEW'S** promotion push in division two with a 2-1 home win over leaders Kerry.

At the other end of the table, there was more woe for lowly **FOUR CROSSES** who were downed 5-2 at Borth United.

CHURCHSTOKE slumped 4-1 at Radnor Valley, Bettws were beaten 3-1 at Newbridge while Abermule went down 4-1 at Aberystwyth University for whom Rian Devlin netted a goal in each half.

Saints make fruitless trip for Hereford

ST MARTINS lost ground on the leaders in the West Midlands League division one after suffering a disappointing 3-1 loss at Bartestree.

Having netted 15 goals in their previous two outings, the Saints found their hosts a tougher nut to crack after making the long trip to Herefordshire with a weakened squad.

Bartestree, a big strong side, had their chances before taking a 25th minute lead when Richard Harrison headed in a cross from the left.

The Saints, despite being well below their best, hit back 10 minutes later as Jamie Hands converted a penalty awarded for handball in the box.

However, their joy was short-lived as the hosts quickly restore their lead when Max Powell fired in from a corner before Darren Andrews made it 3-1 five minutes into the second half.

Having slipped down to sixth spot, boss Ryan Butcher will be looking for his side to bounce back on Saturday when they host rock bottom Wryley who they hammered 8-2 just two weeks ago.

Llanfair on the up after vital victory

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

BUOYANT Llanfair United boosted their survival prospects in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance after clinching a crucial 1-0 victory at basement rivals Caersws.

A goal in first half stoppage time from James Davies proved enough to separate the sides, lifting Llanfair up to a respectable 11th while leaving their Mid Wales hosts stranded at the foot of the table.

It proved another disappointing afternoon for Caersws who battled hard despite being disrupted by injuries, but again came up short as they failed to take what chances came along.

Iain Edmunds was denied by one good save from keeper Lee Andrew as the Bluebirds were restricted to long range efforts, but the key moment came right on half time as Davies fired home following a corner.

In a game that both teams needed to win, the first 20 minutes were very even with neither side creating many good chances.

Davies was presented with the first opportunity of the game when a Caersws goalkeeping error presented him with an open goal but, having rounded the defender, the keeper managed to get back to claw the ball off the line.

Llanfair, however, made the crucial breakthrough right on half time when a corner fell to Joe Vaughan who laid off Davies to strike the ball home from 12 yards out.

After the break, Caersws stepped up the pressure in search of an equaliser, but keeper Andrew made some important saves.

Set-pieces

A solid back four also managed to stop any open play chances for the hosts whose biggest threat came from set-pieces.

The Bluebirds had a headed effort ruled off the offside, while at the other end Paul Griffiths was denied by a smart save following a break-away.

GUILDSFIELD cemented their place in the top six with a 6-3 victory at struggling Rhayader Town – and remain just two points off top spot.

Aaron Edwards put them on their way with a 13th minute opener, Christian Jones and debutant Dafydd Carruthers then had Rhayader ahead, but Adam Jenkins fired the scores level right on half time.

The Guils then surged ahead in the second period as the chances flowed, man-of-the match Jake Cook netting a quick fire double, and Jenkins also bagging his second of the game.

Although Rhidian Davies pulled one back with a penalty harshly awarded for handball, Gareth Jones sealed the win for the visitors when his cross found the net nine minutes from time.

Fixtures

Huws Gray Cymru Alliance – Friday: Denbigh Town v Holyhead Hotspur (7.30pm)

Saturday (2.30pm): Caernarfon Town v Rhayader Town, Conwy Borough v Caersws, Flint Town Utd v Porthmadog, Gresford Ath v Buckley Town, Llanfair Utd v Holywell Town, Mold Alex v Cefn Druids

Huws Gray Cup round two: Guilsfield v Prestatyn Town.

TNS keeper blow in Cup defeat



Sarah Burke in action for TNS ladies in the FA Cup defeat to Wolves. Picture: Sue Wilson.

HOPES of maintaining their run in the SSE Women's FA Cup came to an end for The New Saints Ladies who bowed out 3-0 to Wolverhampton Wanderers Ladies in the fourth qualifying round.

Although the Saints have not lost since their opening pre-season game against Morecambe Ladies, their chances of overcoming visiting Wolves suffered an early setback as they were forced into a goalkeeping change due to injury. Right from the off the visitors looked in the ascendancy, forcing an early chance that saw Ceri Evans collide with an opposing player as she came out to gather the ball.

After a lengthy stoppage, the teenage goalkeeper was taken to hospital and replaced in goal by Sophie Edwards who was soon called into action, producing a treble save, first a shot from the edge of the box, before making two point blank stops.

However, just before the half hour mark, FA Women's Premier League side Wolves made their possession pay as Laura McQuillen rifled a shot from the edge of the box that rattled the crossbar before bouncing over the line.

Wolves then doubled their lead five minutes into stoppage time when a corner from the right by Jennifer Anslow was cleared by Sarah Burke before Jennifer Anslow lofted the ball into the far side of the net.

The second half saw the Saints improve their performance with more fluidity in their play as they enjoyed good periods with the ball. The hosts, however, were further disrupted when Sam Berry was taken off with an injury, which later proved to be a cracked bone in the foot.

The Saints had a chance through Maddie Jones who saw her shot rebound off the post and out for a goal kick.

But Wolves put the game to bed midway through the half when a corner from Laura McQuillen was met by captain Anna Perks whose header gave Edwards no chance.

Minutes before the end, TNS went close to a consolation when a thought ball from Sophie Davies put Emily Ridge through one-on-one against keeper Lucy Gardner, but she chipped just wide.

Peter Wilson, Head of Girls & Women's Football, commented: "Second half we really showed

what we are about. We completed with a team who should be a league above what they are.

"Obviously it was devastating to lose Ceri Evans within the first few minutes of the game, and then to lose Sam Berry, who has got a cracked bone in the foot.

"Sophie Edwards did an exceptional job in goal, making some fantastic saves.

"She fully deserved the player of the match award."

The Saints look to bounce back in the West Midlands Ladies Premier league when they next take on Lye Town at Park Hall Stadium in their next action on Sunday, November 22 (2pm).

■ Harriett Davies plundered five goals and Courtney Ashworth a hat-trick as TNS Ladies under-14s swept aside Shrewsbury Up & Comers Girls 10-0, Libby McKenzie completing the scoring with a brace.

There were also plenty of goals as TNS Ladies under-12s came top to 7-0 victory over Wrekin Juniors Girls, with two goals from Sioned Roberts. There were also singles from Carys Gittens, Seren Roberts, Olivia Rathe, Mia Kaye and Olivia Henderson.

Morda set for triple bill of cup away days

DESPITE taking an early lead through Kyle Wilson, Morda United had to settle for a 1-1 draw at home to Waterloo Rovers reserves in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division one.

Morda looked set to complete the double over their visitors when Wilson found the net after eight minutes direct from a free-kick on the edge of the penalty area.

But lowly Waterloo were undeterred and sounded a warning when Tom Ellis – who was to score their equaliser – sent a header straight to keeper Josh Thomas.

At the other end, Wilson spurned the opportunity to extend the Morda lead when firing over after terrific work by Emlyn Williams who himself just failed to reach a penetrating ball from Calum Hughes.

Within one minute of the restart, their one goal lead was cancelled out when, after the hosts had failed to clear their lines, Ellis gave Josh Thomas no chance from short range.

From then on, the Weston Road side struggled against the wind and the only real threat to the Waterloo goal came in the dying seconds when John Butler went close from a Wilson cross.

Morda now have cup matches on each of the next three Saturdays, all of them away from home.

This Saturday they face Waterloo Rovers Reserves for the third time in four weeks, this time in the Emrys Morgan cup tie will kick off at 1.30pm.

This will be followed by two ties away to Llanrhaeadr Reserves in the Village Cup, then away to Llanfair United Reserves in the League Cup.

Bishop has opposition on their knees

HOT-SHOT Chris Bishop continued his scoring streak as FC Oswestry Town stayed top of the Mercian Regional League premier division on goal difference after hitting Wrexeter Rovers for six.

The striker netted another hat-trick to lead the league's scoring charts with 19 goals from 10 league appearances in the comfortable 6-1 victory at Park Hall. Callum Williams, Paul Bache and sub Harry Kerr also found the net.

Town, who still lead Allscott on goal difference having played a game more, look to maintain their title charge away to lowly Oaken-gates Athletic on Saturday.

Meanwhile, FC Oswestry reserves remain in the lower reaches of the second division following their 4-1 loss to Coven United.

St Martins reserves eased their basement worries after notching a 3-1 win against bottom club Denso.

Guils book cup ticket in extra-time

GUILDSFIELD Reserves kept their flag flying in the Emrys Morgan Cup with a terrific 4-1 extra-time win at Newcastle.

The home side took the lead soon after the break before Guils player/manager Dan Pritchard smashed in a long range equaliser to send the tie into extra-time.

Despite having a depleted squad, the visitors finished strongly with a brace from Luke Francis and one from Phil Turnbull taking their side through to the third round where they will visit Maesglas.

Llanrhaeadr also progressed with a 5-1 win at Bow Street, Llanfahan had a walkover against Llanon, but Welshpool bowed out 6-2 at Penparcau and Llangedwyn were beaten 2-0 at Aberaeron.

New Saints win thriller at the seaside

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

son in the league, struck first blood in the opening minute when Marc Williams fired in from the edge of the box.

But the early setback failed to knock TNS out of their stride and they were on terms eight minutes later as winger Cieslewicz cut in from the edge of the box before slipping the ball past keeper Dave Roberts.

Five minutes later, veteran defender Evans put the visitors in front when powering home a header from six yards out that gave Roberts little chance.

The Saints made light of the blustery conditions as they bossed the midfield duels in their first visit to Maesdu Park, and extended their advantage on the half hour when Wilde headed in Cieslewicz's cross.

Both sides had their chances soon after the break, with substitute Liam Dawson putting a low shot just wide as the Seasiders broke forward while keeper Roberts pulled off a terrific double save at the other end moments later.

But the Saints were not to be denied on the 68th minute as the impressive Cieslewicz was brought down in the box and Sergeant stepped up to send

Roberts the wrong way from the spot to give TNS a 4-1 lead.

However, Llandudno showed just why they have cemented their place among the leading pack this season with a spirited finish.

In the 76th minute, Williams netted his second of the game to reduce the deficit and with only minutes to play, substitute Lewis Buckley pulled another goal back.

However, Craig Harrison's side held on despite some late pressure to maintain their unbeaten campaign, and are now eight points clear after nearest rivals Bala Town succumbed 2-0 away to Airbus UK.

Meanwhile, Jason Oswell's late header earned Newtown a precious 1-0 win in a scrappy affair at Haverfordwest to lift themselves up to third in the Welsh Premier.

The stalemate was eventually broken four minutes from time when Craig Williams swung an excellent cross into the box from the right and top scorer Oswell's headed effort at the far post beat keeper Scott James.

The Robins survived a penalty in the first minute after Tom Goodwin was ruled to have handled in the box, with keeper Dave Jones saving the spot kick from Luke Borelli.

COBRA big comeback falls short against Mold



Fly-half Llew Williams spins out a pass in COBRA's 23-14 defeat at Mold with centre Iwan Vaughan (12) in support

COBRA remain adrift at the foot of the Swalec Welsh League division one (north) after slipping to a 23-14 loss in a windswept affair at Mold.

The blustery conditions made it a game of two halves, with Mold opening up a 20-0 interval lead with the wind at their backs, before the Meifod visitors did their best to battle back in the second period.

Unfortunately, their comeback just fell short of securing a bonus point, which still leaves them propping up the first division table.

They were up against it after mid-table Mold scored two tries in the first half, both following contentious decisions.

The first came following a knock-on, and a second arrived after the visitors had been on the wrong end of a penalty call. With one of the tries being converted as well as a penalty, it meant COBRA were 20-0 down at the break.

Hopes of staging a fightback suffered another blow early in the second half when they had hooker Steve Isaac sin binned, and the resulting penalty was kicked to extend the home lead.

But the Meifod side battled hard to the final whistle, and their efforts secured two tries, the first from centre Frazer Roberts, followed by a touchdown from wing Richard Rees who raced over from 30 yards after centre Harry Jukes had made the break.

Both were converted by fly half Llew Williams, but a third score did not materialise as the visitors were left with little to show for their efforts.

They now face a crucial home clash with Ruthin on Saturday, as they look to avenge a thrilling 25-21 defeat in the North Wales Cup just a few weeks back.

After trailing for much of the game, **WELSHPOOL** battled back to secure 5-5 draw at Rhos in division three (north) thanks to a late try. That result kept them in fourth spot ahead of Saturday's trip to Bangor who lie one place above.

The club's youngsters enjoyed their best win for many a season when prevailing 31-3 at COBRA in the Mid Wales Youth League division two.

They ran in five tries, with second row Kieran Goodwin and No8 Andy Gough both crossing twice, along with scrum half Toby Mitton.

New keeper in Ellesmere glove story

ELLESMERE RANGERS boss Richard Brown has welcomed the arrival of experienced goalkeeper Damien Stevens as he turns his attention towards Saturday's trip to Malvern Town.

Stevens, the former Market Drayton Town and Lye No 1, enjoyed an impressive debut for Rangers last weekend as the Beech Grove men hit back from 2-0 down at the break to draw 2-2 at home to Dudley Sports in the West Midlands League premier division. The result leaves them eighth in the table.

Brown was pleased with his side's fightback and also the display of new boy Stevens, a timely addition given Lee Davies, Dan Pilkington and Greg Fletcher – who have all played between the posts for Ellesmere this season – were unavailable.

"We were struggling for a keeper so it was great that Damo came in and did so well," said Brown. "He really kept us in the game with some of the saves he made and he gives us a bit of experience."

"He's a good keeper and while he might struggle to make midweek games because of work commitments hopefully he'll be available on a Saturday."

Brown admitted his team were up against it at the break last weekend with Dudley Sports in command with a 2-0 scoreline in their favour.

But the game swung back Ellesmere's way once Brown introduced his 19-year-old son Josh, a pacy striker, from the bench just past the hour.

Brown, sidelined for the previous six weeks owing to a dislocated knee cap, scored with his first touch

to cut the arrears and then he was pulled down for a free kick on the edge of the box which was brilliantly fired into the top corner of the net by the in-form Jackson Hassanyeh, his third goal in four games.

"Josh and Mattie Jones, who also came on as a sub, added a bit of pace up top and that makes a hell of a difference," added Brown. "Josh did well when he came on after six weeks out injured."

"If someone had offered me a point at half-time when we were 2-0 down I would have taken it."

Brown stressed he pleased with the attitude of his squad – "we've got a great bunch of young lads," he said – and now he's looking forward to Saturday's trip to 17th-placed Malvern, who were 6-3 winners at Bromyard last weekend.

Eagles flying high after fine away win

RUGBY by John Bridgwater

THIRD placed Oswestry kept up the pressure on the leaders in the Cheshire South after overcoming an early setback to secure a hard-fought 22-7 success at Trentham.

The bonus point victory took the Eagles eight points off top spot with a game in hand, and the Granville Park men will be looking to make the most of their home clash with Moore on Saturday.

Trentham were a shadow of the side that struggled last season, and sounded an early warning they would be no pushovers by crossing for an excellent try in the first minute following a defensive mistake.

Stung into action, the Eagles began to put pressure on their Stoke hosts with some excellent ball play and handling.

From one of these plays, after being awarded a penalty in their half, the Eagles broke upfield with James Booth moving the ball to full-back Luca Yuoen Owens who smashed through the defence to score in the corner for an unconverted try.

The Os men had their tails up, making terrific runs from the mauls and quick ball from the ruck to keep the Trentham defence at full stretch.

Having powered towards the home line, the Oswestry forwards proved an unstoppable force as man-of-the-match Luke Hassall surged over the try line for a magnificent effort, again not converted for a 10-7 lead.

The visitors continued to keep their rivals on the back foot as they probed for the gaps, although the game was stalled by a string of penalties for offside and hands in the ruck from both teams.

Pressure

Then a slick move opened the door, Gaz Hughes offloading to Andy Merrett with the ball moving along to Owen Yuoen who again broke through for a second try, converted by fly-half Fin Grogan for a 17-7 half-time lead.

A galvanised Trentham came back in the second period after a few strong words at half-time, and immediately put pressure on the Eagles by kicking into the corner on the downward slope.

With Oswestry defending in stirring fashion, Trentham became increasingly frustrated at failing to make inroads, which ended up with tempers boiling over with no score coming their way.

With proceedings slowed by penalties, coach Gaz Barratt made changes to help influence the game with Scott Double and Jamie Tsang coming on to bulk the pack.

Oswestry found themselves down to 14 men after James Booth was sent off for 10 minutes following another infringement, but they continued to hold firm with some wholehearted defence. Booth returned to duty with a sigh of relief to help ease the pressure from Trentham, and the visitors made the most of an attacking opening with a fourth try to extend the lead to 22-7.

Trentham did their utmost to get another score in the closing minutes, but were again met by resolute defence despite their relentless pressure which saw Oswestry have two players sent off for dubious penalties to finish with 13 on the pitch.

OSWESTRY II suffered a narrow 23-17 loss at Macclesfield IV in the North West League division four (south). They are in cup action at Old Bedians II on Saturday.

Tennis champions retain titles



Ladies singles winner Elspeth Cumpston and Linda Clark

MATT GRICE retained his men's singles title as Oswestry Tennis Club served up its finals day in front of enthusiastic spectators and fellow club members.

The club staged six matches, with the afternoon's events beginning with the prestigious men's singles final which saw a repeat of last year's final as Grice kept hold of his crown with a thrilling three set (10-7) victory over Gary Edwards.

The third/fourth place followed with Gilbert Woolley, who had been top of the ladder for most of the season, beating Saffron Rainey in straight sets 6-4, 6-3.

The ladies singles final also saw Elspeth Cumpston retain her title with a straight sets 6-3, 6-3 victory over Linda Clark.

Next up was the final of a new event to the club, the mixed doubles handicapped tournament.

This involved 32 club members who played with a partner drawn from a hat and were handicapped according to the pairing's assessed ability. The format ensured that all club members, whatever their standard of play, could play together with an equal chance of success.

This culminated in a match between Matt Grice and Carolyn

Yates and Gary Edwards and Anthea Landon, with the latter pair emerging the victors in straight sets 6-3, 6-2.

The penultimate match was the club mixed doubles final which saw Gary Edwards and Elspeth Cumpston play Saffron Rainey and Linda Clarke, with Edwards and Cumpston victorious by a score of 6-1, 6-3.

The final match played saw the club men's double final between David Clough and Ben Syrett-Judd and Keith Grice and Brett Hollywell. Grice and Hollywell emerged victorious to take the title in straight sets 7-5, 6-3.



Men's singles winner Matt Grice (centre), runner up Gary Edwards (left) and Gilbert Woolley

The golf returns from your local club

ARSCOTT
Men's Monthly Stableford Division 1: D Rogers 42pts, A Tolhurst 41; Division 2: S Wasell 41, P Evans 41; Division 3: P Bromley 44, M Hughes 38.

BRIDGNORTH
Founders Shield: J Humphreys and C Bothwell 43pts; J Harris & R Morris 41(c/b); T & S Meehan 41.
Nearest the Pin: M Welch; Nearest the Pin in two: R Gindley.
Ladies' Founders Shield - Nearest the Pin: S Meehan.

HILL VALLEY
Ladies' LGU Medal (Emerald): S McGinley 92-08-84, C Pickering 102-17-85, C Ellwood 111-24-87.

Stableford (Sapphire): A Wilson 28 (27), G Thomas 26 (17), B Whitby 25 (28).

Last Captains Charity Texas Scramble (Emerald): C Sheard, B Sierstema & S Wynn 85-15-58, I Siles, G Thomas & B Whitby 87-14-4-72.6. (£35 was raised for the Captains Charity - Midlands Air Ambulance).

OSWESTRY
Christmas Competition 4888 Medal: J Harris & N Kerstow 63, S Hughes & S Griffiths 64 (c/b), S Hawkey & R Allen 64 (c/b), M Knapper & D James 64 (c/b), S Ashworth & C Johnson 64, S Roberts & J Harris 65 (c/b).

Ladies' EG Medal 18 Holes Silver Division: J Kelshaw 79-15-64, T Pearce 71-4-67, C Hawkey 89-16-73, Bronze Division: M Brogden 93-21-72, S Mackenzie 97-23-74, A Barker 104-28-78.

Upper Bronze Division: A Brock 112-34-78, T Hyde 114-35-79, S Watanabe 114-34-80.
Nine Holes: G Sheppard 10pts; V Griffiths 9.

Table tennis side looking for victories

CAEREINION A have got off to an indifferent start as they seek their fifth straight Oswestry & District Table Tennis League title.

The defending champions have just one draw to show from their first three Division One matches and are 11 points adrift of the leaders.

Despite Wyn Williams winning all his games to date, team-mates Phil Langford and Andrezec Bartoszer have only managed one win between them.

The early frontrunners are Morda Tigers and club counterparts Morda Exiles. Both teams have taken maximum points to date so their head-to-head match in a couple of weeks could prove decisive in the title race.

Lower down in the division Llansilin Drovers and Crifins A are also looking for their first win despite putting in some spirited performances to date.

Most notably, Crifins teenager Dylan Evans has already proved himself with recent wins against the more experienced Jeremy Chavez and Glyn Jones.

In Division Two it looks to be a three-way battle for the title between Llansilin, Crifins B and the Oswestry-based Ex Servicemen's, with the latter two teams being unbeaten.

Hockey men suffer defeat on the road

OSWESTRY lost ground on the leaders in the West Midlands Hockey League division one when slipping to a 4-3 loss at Leamington.

After scoring 17 goals in their previous two outings, Os would have fancied their chances, but were forced to make the trip with several key players missing.

They were soon chasing the game before Pete Smith levelled matters, but Leamington struck twice more to open up a 3-1 lead.

Jack Morgan pulled one back just before half time, but Leamington finished strongly.

■ Oswestry Ladies now find themselves third from bottom in the Cheshire Women's Hockey League division two after suffering a 2-0 reverse at lowly Knutsford Ladies.

They now face a tough home clash at home to high flying Chester Ladies III on Saturday.

Welshpool Ladies picked up their first win in the North Wales League division one with a welcome 2-1 success over Pwllheli.

How to get those funds for fitness

SPORT and physical activity groups in Shropshire are being invited to a 'funding roadshow' to get advice on how to boost finances and attract new sponsors.

The half-day event, open to all non-profit sport and activity organisations in the county, is at the Whitehouse Hotel in Telford on November 17 (9am) and is organised by county sports partnership Energize Shropshire Telford & Wrekin.

Its business development officer Helen White said: "This is an incredibly valuable opportunity for any not-for-profit organisation seeking to explore the kind of funding streams available."

For details, contact Energize at Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury on 01743 297191 or email helen.white@energizestw.org.uk



Williams out of COBRA'S crucial clash

FLY-HALF Llew Williams misses COBRA'S crucial home clash with Ruthin on Saturday (2.30) as they battle to escape the foot of the table in rugby's Swalec League Welsh League division one (north).

With just one win in seven league outings, including last weekend's wind-swept 23-14 loss at Mold, the Meifod side find themselves five points adrift of Dolegellau at the basement.

Having played just twice at home, they know they need to make the most of their Llanfair surrounds when they entertain Ruthin who lie just three places above.

But they must do without influential half back Williams who is unavailable for one game, which will force changes to the back line.

Free-scoring winger Sion Wyn Williams is again unlikely to figure due to an ankle injury, but it could be the forwards that hold the key this weekend.

They were a dominant force when the sides met in the North Wales Cup just a couple of weeks ago, with Ruthin withstanding a fightback to progress 25-21.

But COBRA could take confidence from their performance that night, and were only denied a win by some stirring late defence from the visitors.

They will be looking to produce a similar show as they chase a much needed victory to avoid falling further adrift at the foot of the table.

WELSHPOOL, who stayed fourth in division three (north) after their 5-5 draw at Rhos thanks to a late try, are away to Bangor who lie one place above.

Best result of the weekend came from Pool's youngsters who ran out 31-3 victors at their COBRA counterparts in the Mid Wales Youth League division two in which they ran in five tries.

OSWESTRY look to stay in touching distance of the leaders in the Cheshire South when they entertain Moore on Saturday (2.15pm).

The Eagles consolidated third spot with a hard fought 22-7 bonus point success at Trentham last weekend and, despite still eight points off top spot, do have a game in hand.

Match reports see page 47

Work starts on Cae Glas clubhouse refit

WORK this week got under way on renovating Cae Glas' pavilion at Gatacre in time for next's Shropshire Cricket League division two campaign.

After many months of hard work from committee members and former and current players, a long term lease has finally been secured on the pavilion and square.

Linked to the work on the pavilion is the need to have the Oswestry club registered under Clubmark, a scheme operated by the ECB through the local Shropshire Cricket Board to ensure the clubs meet certain standards.

This includes clubs having a junior section and in order to do this, the Glas needs qualified coaches, and anyone interested should contact the club.

Cae Glas, meanwhile, hold their annual dinner and presentation evening at the Simla restaurant in Oswestry on Friday, November 20.

TNS LOOK TO OPEN THE GAP

THE New Saints have a score to settle at home to Rhyl on Friday night (7.45pm) as they look to extend their lead at the top of the Dafabet Welsh Premier to an imposing 11 points.

The defending champions were locked in a disappointing 0-0 stalemate away to the Seaside's earlier in the season, one of three draws in their first seven league games. Since they have gone from strength to strength, winning their next seven league games, as well as notching victories in two Word Cup ties.

They will fancy their chances of extending their winning run to 10 games against a Rhyl side that is toiling in the bottom two after a mixed start to the season.

But boss Craig Harrison will not be taking anything for granted, particularly after seeing his side concede three times in last week's 4-3 victory at Llandudno.

"Rhyl will be a threat, a bit like Llandudno were," he said. "I watched them against Aberystwyth, they fought hard to draw 2-2."

"They have two young, skilful forwards in Rob Hughes and Connor Bell, and will be dangerous on the counter attack."

"But, as in every game this season, we need to concentrate on ourselves and, if we play like we can, then it's a game we're expecting to win."

Harrison, however, will want his side to tighten up defensively after conceding three goals in the 4-3 win at Llandudno.

"We had only conceded four goals in the previous 13 games, so it was a bit disappointing to concede three in one game," he said. "The most disappointing thing for me was conceding one goal off a set play, and is something we'll be working on this week in training."

Training

"Apart from the first minute, and the last 10 minutes, it was a game we dominated. It was the most one sided 4-3 game I've seen. We played well but we were guilty of taking our foot off the pedal in the last 10 minutes, gave a couple of silly goals away which made it a bit nervy at the end."

Striker Scott Quigley is again missing as he serves the last of his three game suspension, while Greg Draper and Chris Marriott await fitness checks.

Both Draper and Marriott were back training this week after missing last weekend with hamstring strains, but defender Connell Rawlinson continues to be troubled with a back problem.

Experienced campaigner Steve Evans returned to the back line against Llandudno, scoring his team's second goal to continue his impressive comeback from a snapped achilles that threatened to curtail his career.

"Steve's been brilliant to come back the way he has," said Harrison. "It was funny, before the game I was saying I fancied him to score as Llandudno are not the biggest of teams."

TNS are again at home next Tuesday when they continue the defence of the Word Cup against Carmarthen Town in the semi-final at Park Hall. The holders have already defeated the Old Gold twice in the Welsh Premier this season, so will be confident of making it a hat-trick on home surrounds.

Boss delight as Llanfair stop rot



Goal – Llanfair's James Davies (right) is congratulated by Joe Vaughan and Paul Griffiths after hitting the decisive goal at Caersws. Picture: Jonathan Richards.

LLANFAIR United boss Rhys Stephens admitted his side's victory at fellow strugglers Caersws was the perfect tonic as they battle for survival in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance, writes **JOHN BRIDGWATER**.

Having lost their previous five league outings to slip into basement danger, Llanfair stopped the rot with a crucial 1-0 success over the Bluebirds thanks to a goal right on half-time from James Davies.

That victory was enough to lift them up to a respectable 11th in the table, and was their first victory in the league since hammering Porthmadog 5-1 at the Mount back in September.

And it will put the league newcomers in good heart for Saturday's testing home clash with in-form Holywell Town, who underlined their credentials with their 4-0 victory over Gresford Athletic.

"I would have settled for a point against Caersws, so to win was massive for us and will be a big confident boost," said Stephens.

"Although the boys have not been getting down over the results, they needed that result as our next five games are against the five teams at the top of the league."

"Holywell is going to be tough as they are flying at the moment, they won 4-0 against Gres-

ford who had not lost since August, but this season we have shown we can compete against the top teams in the league."

"It's going to be very tight, there's not much between a lot of the sides."

GUILSFIELD are keeping tabs on the leaders after winning 6-3 at lowly Rhayader Town as they made light of a heavy surface at the Weirglodd.

After being all square at 2-2 at half-time, they surged ahead in the second period with Jake Cook and Adam Jenkins both scoring twice.

That result kept the Guils in sixth, but they are just two points off top spot in what is becoming an increasingly congested table.

Threat

They take a break from the league on Saturday to host Prestatyn Town in the second round of the Huws Gray Cup, a competition in which they finished runners-up last season.

"Our focus is on the league, but it will still be good to do well in the cup again," said manager Danny Barton.

"First half we weren't great last week. Rhayader were quite a threat and again we gave some bad goals away, but we were very good going forward in the second half."

Welshpool braced for top battle

WELSHPOOL bid to put the brakes on Penrhynoch as their revival is put to the test in Saturday's Spar Mid Wales League division one top of the table affair at Maesydre (2.30pm).

The youthful Lilywhites lost pole position after their 1-1 draw at Llanidloes Town, and now face a tall order against an unbeaten Penrhyn side who took over at the top on goal difference following their 4-2 beating of Llanrhaeadr.

Penrhyn have lived up to their billing of title favourites following an unbeaten run in the league this season, including seven wins and two draws.

Third placed Llanrhaeadr look to get back on track at home to Llanidloes Town while Waterloo Rovers, who are now up to six, look to cement their place among the leading pack when they head to Machynlleth.

In division two, Berriew bid to maintain their promotion push at Bont after boosting their challenge with last week's 2-1 victory over high flying Kerry.

A fine 25-yard strike from Steffan Rogers and a tap-in from Jonny Roberts secured the spoils after Huw McGrath had levelled for Kerry.

"It was a hard fought game and a very pleasing victory, especially as we are still without captain George Davies and Karl Selaerts, although both are back in training," said manager Dave Jones, the former Welshpool boss. "We are in a good position, now but there is a long way to go and a lot of big games coming up."

Power ends season third in standings

BEN Power admitted it was a frustrating finish after having to settle for third place in the National Legends Car championship following the season finale at Brands Hatch.

The Guilsfield racing driver just missed out after being a contender for the keenly contested televised series throughout the season with world champion John Mickel and James Holman.

On the first day of the two-day meeting at Brands Hatch, Power finished sixth and first in the heats, and fifth in the final to place third overall in some very wet conditions.

The next day he won the first race, but a diesel spill from a lorry on to the track caused a two-hour delay.

When racing resumed, the track was slippery for the second race, making overtaking especially hard. Power finished 10th and due to the lost time, the final race was cancelled, giving him second place overall on the day, and third place in the final championship table for the season.

"It was a frustrating finish to an eventful season," said Power.

"We were in contention for the title for a lot of the year, but we've had a few setbacks and a couple of crashes that didn't help."

"Going to Brands, although John Mickel had already secured the championship, we felt we could still grab second; but the conditions made it tough, and with the last race cancelled, it was impossible to get the points to close the gap."

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